

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Rich... How has the oil boom changed the face of the Shetlands? ... and beautiful



Princess Elizabeth of Toro is alive and well in a London flat. She talks to Pennyerrick. An eye... The new computers: machines that 'think' about what they see

... on the ball England's party for the winter cricket tour of Fiji, New Zealand and Pakistan is analysed by John Woodcock. Business is... Part 2 of the Business News series on men making millions

Sinclair profit is £14m

Sinclair Research, Sir Clive Sinclair's pioneering home computer firm, announced a pre-tax profit of £14m for 1982-83. The 65 per cent increase confounds those who expected Sinclair to be hit by the microcomputer price war.

Princess in flying visit

The Princess of Wales returned to London from Balmoral yesterday for a short visit. Buckingham Palace said she would return to Scotland tomorrow.

Teeth clue

The discovery of some teeth means police trying to identify the headless corpse of a woman found in a Devon wood have reduced to three, the possibilities from their missing persons list. Police build picture, page 3

Trial delayed

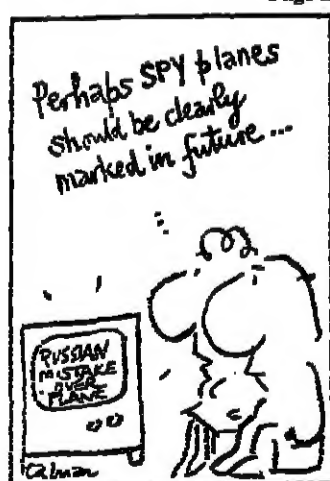
David Martin, whom police were hunting when they shot Mr Stephen Waldorf in January, had his trial postponed for a week. Page 2

Gilpin dies

John Gilpin, the former ballet dancer, has died aged 53 while visiting his flat in Bayswater, London with his wife, Princess Antoinette of Monaco. Page 12

Spending cuts

Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, tomorrow begins his task of cutting £2.5m from ministers' budgets for next year. Page 2



Durie through

Britain's two survivors in the US singles championships met with mixed fortunes in New York. Joanna Durie reached the quarter-finals, but John Lloyd went out. Page 21

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Leading articles: Lebanon: Korea, Japan and the doomed jumbo; government secrecy
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France's Exocet contribution to the Gulf War, Roger Scruton on justice and injustice, Bernard Levin goes window-shopping, part II of the Spectrum series on robots: Fashion takes a look at menswear
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Mr John Gilpin, Piero Saffa

Russians hint at error but not shooting down jet

● Moscow last night hinted that the MIG pilot involved in the Korean jet incident may have mistaken it for an American RC135 spy plane.
● American officials maintain that the Russians could not have failed to identify the Korean plane as a civilian airliner before shooting it down.
● The Russians accused President Reagan of using the crisis to ensure the failure of the Geneva talks and guarantee deployment of cruise and Pershing 2 missiles.

● Debris believed to be from the airliner has been found by searchers 57 miles north of Moneron Island, off the west coast of Sakhalin (Page 6)
● The visit to Paris by Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, has been postponed to the end of the week by common consent
● The Canadian Government suspended for 60 days the Montreal landing rights of the Soviet airline, Aeroflot, its only scheduled service into North America

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Moscow yesterday responded to an American admission that a United States spy plane was in the same area at the ill-fated South Korean jumbo jet with growing indications that the MIG pilot involved in the incident made a fatal error of identification. The Russians have still not said, however, that shells fired by the MIG struck the Boeing.

In an article in *Pravda* yesterday, Colonel-General Sergey Romanov, chief of staff of the anti-aircraft defence, said the West was clanking loudly that the Soviet pilot knew perfectly well he was dealing with a civilian airliner. "But that is precisely what he did not know," Colonel-General Romanov said. "The jet was flying without lights, and its profile is similar in many ways to that of the American reconnaissance plane, the RC135. The pilot could not determine what function the intruder aircraft was carrying out."

The Tass version of the article rendered "could not" as "might well have failed" to determine. This was the third time that Moscow had advanced the theory of mistaken identity to account for its action - without spelling out what action it had taken - five days after the incident occurred. The Russians also stepped up their counter-attack against President Reagan by accusing him last night of taking advantage of the East-West crisis over the airliner to ensure that the Geneva arms talks which resume today fail, and

the cruise and Pershing 2 missiles are moved into place in December.

A long and detailed Tass statement said that Mr Reagan's "rabid anti-Soviet campaign" was a deliberate provocation intended to aggravate the world situation, obstruct the arms talks and enable the United States to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union so that it could dictate to it.

The Tass statement, like all Kremlin statements during the crisis, was released just before the evening news bulletin on television at 9pm. Its harsh tone reinforced the impression that hardliners in the leadership have prevailed over those who favour a limited acknowledgement of Soviet culpability.

An American congressman who yesterday met senior Soviet Foreign Ministry officials in Moscow said he found it "unbelievable" that Soviet radar operators or fighter pilots could have confused a clearly marked 747 with the modified Boeing 747 or 707s used for reconnaissance missions.

Mr William Gray (Democrat, Pennsylvania), who had constituents on board the doomed jet, said he had told officials in Moscow that he was "surely good enough to distinguish them". The officials has insisted that the pilot was confused, and said the MIG interceptors chasing the jet had turned back when it had left Soviet air space and did not know its fate.

Mr Gray said he found it strange that Russia was conducting a search for wreckage in its own waters if the jumbo had flown on into international air space.

At his press conference Mr Gray said Foreign Ministry officials had directly denied that the jumbo was brought down by a Soviet missile. He had urged the officials to admit that an error had been made. But they had responded with a "wall of silence".

Tass reported American press comment on the presence of a second spy plane - as Tass put it - close to the Korean jumbo, and said it "raised new questions about an already complex issue".

Tass said the Reagan Administration was whipping up the cold war, and had incited a "mob of thugs" to break into the Soviet United Nations mission at Glen Cove, near New York.

● OTTAWA: The Canadian Government last night suspended the Montreal landing rights of Aeroflot, thus cutting off the Soviet airline's only scheduled service into North America (John Best writes).

Leading article, page 11

US denies spy plane to blame

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

American officials yesterday tried to clear up the confusion caused by the Reagan administration's admission on Sunday that a US reconnaissance aircraft had been in the general area of the Korean airliner about two hours before it was shot down.

The officials said that although the proximity of the two aircraft may have caused some initial confusion in the Soviet air defence command, the Russians could not have failed to identify the Korean plane as a civilian airliner during the 2½ hours it was tracked before being destroyed.

The officials pointed out that Soviet interceptors had come within 1½ miles of the jet and could not have mistaken its distinctive silhouette for the much smaller RC135 reconnaissance aircraft which the Americans used.

The same officials also emphasized that the US carried out routine patrols - as many as 20 a month - just outside Soviet airspace and that all their spy flights were carefully monitored by Russian radar. The spy plane in question was following a circular route which never penetrated Soviet airspace and was more than 1,000 miles from where the Korean airliner was shot down.



A Boeing RC135 (above) and a Korean Air Boeing 747 showing the relative sizes of the two aircraft

Gromyko agrees to delay his visit to Paris

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The visit here by Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, which was to have taken place yesterday and today, has been postponed as a result of the shooting down of the South Korean airliner.

The "working visit", the first by a senior Soviet official for more than three years, has been rescheduled for the end of the week, after the meeting in Madrid of the Conference on Security and Cooperation, which both Mr Gromyko and Mr Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, are expected to attend. The Foreign Ministry here said that the postponement of the visit had been jointly agreed by Paris and Moscow, but declined to give any official reason for that decision.

It is understood, that both

Banks face 'sweeping changes'

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Mr Timothy Bevan, chairman of Barclays, yesterday forecast sweeping changes in personal customer banking because of competition and the march of technology.

Speaking at the Institute of Bankers' seminar in Cambridge, he predicted further shrinkage in the bank's branch networks but said banks would open in new sites such as railway stations and factories.

Ford chief ends all cut-price deals

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Mr Sam Toy, chairman of Ford UK, sprang a major surprise last night by announcing an immediate end to all incentive and bonus payments to dealers. He challenged other companies to follow Ford's lead and end the bitter discount war of the past two years.

Mr Toy gave a warning, however, that Ford would take "any steps necessary" if its initiative was not supported within about two months.

The immediate reaction of competitors was to challenge his motives. Mr Trevor Taylor, director of sales and marketing for Austin Rover and a former Ford sales executive, said: "We did what Ford is now proposing to do in the first three months of 1982 and it cost us nearly 3 per cent of the market. Not only did Ford not follow our example they stepped up their incentives."



Mr Toy: Surprise announcement

incentive campaign we have ever seen in Britain. Its dealers were able to advertise new Sierras for sale at up to £1,000 below list price which brought market leadership for Sierra. In other words Ford has now achieved its objectives."

Mr Toy's announcement, however, was welcomed by Vauxhall.



Mr Hattersley and Mr Shore, barred from canvassing at TUC, appear at a fringe meeting in Blackpool

Lebanese Army and Phalangists battle against Druze in Chouf

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Lebanon's slide into civil war accelerated last night as Druze militias threatened to take over all of the Chouf mountains above Beirut and Lebanese Government troops and Christian Phalangist militiamen fought themselves fighting side by side against the Druze around the perimeter of the city.

All day the mountainsides above the capital were smothered in shellfire as Syrian-supported Druze forces tried to storm the Phalangist strongholds of Bhamdoun on the heights south of Beirut, and the village of Souk el-Gharb.

Lebanese soldiers outside Beirut managed to keep tenuous control of only a 500 yard strip of coastline south of the capital. Apparently intent on destroying President Gemayel's Government, and taking advantage of the chaos around Beirut, the Syrian regime yesterday asked the Arab League to impose an economic and political boycott of the Lebanese authorities similar

to that placed on Egypt after its peace treaty with Israel. The Syrians, whose government-controlled press is now accusing American marines of giving military support to the Phalangists, demanded that Lebanon's borders with "Arab neighbours" - in other words, with Syria itself - be closed.

In an attempt to protect their former Phalangist allies in Bhamdoun, the Israelis declared that the town which Israeli troops themselves abandoned during their withdrawal on Sunday morning, was a "red line" which Druze militias would not be allowed to penetrate.

How this threat could be fulfilled was not revealed but the right-wing Voice of Lebanon radio station in Beirut last night reported that the Syrian-occupied town of Chataa in the Bekaa Valley had come under heavy shellfire from 155mm guns. Israeli troops still held territory on the mountains eight miles from Chataa.

Last night, fighting was also reported to have broken out between Syrian troops and Phalangist militiamen south of Batroun on the Lebanese coast 20 miles north of Beirut. The battle could not be confirmed but shortly afterwards the Palestine Liberation Organization's Fatah guerrilla movement said in a statement issued from Cyprus that it had decided to give "active support" to what it called "anti-government forces" fighting in the mountains east of Beirut.

The deteriorating security situation in Beirut and the growing anguish of the Gemayel Government was also sharpened last night by the first rumours of massacres in the hills. Unverified reports - and that they are unverified should be stressed - said that at least 40 Druze women and children had been killed not far from Kfar Marja and that 30 Christians had been slaughtered near Bhamdoun.

Beirut tonight, page 6
Leading article, page 11

Shamir coalition delayed by Sharon role

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Attempts by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the newly elected leader of the Herut Party, to form a new right-wing coalition, have run into a series of political difficulties, including a dispute over the future role of reserve General Ariel Sharon, the former Defence Minister.

The in-fighting among the various parties which form the coalition originally put together by Mr Menachem Begin in 1977, is considered to be the reason why the retiring Prime Minister has so far delayed his promise to submit

a formal letter of resignation to President Chaim Herzog. After five hours of intensive negotiations yesterday, no progress was reported in Mr Shamir's effort to secure the guaranteed backing of the three-man Tami Party, which is demanding a reversal of the sweeping public spending cuts agreed just before Mr Begin's decision to stand down.

Speculation that he intends to appoint Mr Sharon - despite the Kahan Commission's condemnation of the former Defence

Minister over the Beirut massacre - as chairman of the Ministerial Committee on Settlements, has upset the Liberal Party, the second largest group.

In addition to the problems over Tami and Mr Sharon's future, Mr Shamir also has to ensure the backing of the four members of the ultra Orthodox Agudat Israel Party. They are demanding a fresh commitment that the new Government will push through religious laws, which in their turn seem likely to alienate other potential partners.

Five die in Highland coach crash

By a Staff Reporter

Five people died and at least 44 others were injured when a coach owned by the National bus company crashed about 12 miles south of Ullapool in the North West Highlands, Scotland.

Seriously injured survivors were taken to the Royal Infirmary in Glasgow. The coach had stopped at the Caledonian hotel in Ullapool for lunch after an overnight stop at Strathpeffer. It then headed south again. The passengers are thought to have been on their way to spend the night at the Ben Wyvis hotel in Strathpeffer.

At least eight ambulances were sent to the scene of the crash. Medical staff and fire engines worked at the scene of the crash well into the hours of darkness freeing trapped victims and off-duty staff were drafted in to deal with the casualties.

A spokesman at Dingwall police station said that a casualty bureau had been set up at Inverness and that the coach was from the Chichester area. All inquiries should be directed to Inverness (0463) 224567.

The coach had to be lifted by

jacks and air bags so that those underneath it could be released and was then tipped on its side so that firemen could get inside it to release the injured.

Weather conditions at the time were poor, with rain making driving conditions difficult.

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Alliance candidates call for parties to converge

By Our Political Editor

An appeal to the leaders of the Liberal and Social Democratic parties that they should allow a convergence towards a merger has been made by the six candidates who represented the Alliance in Lincolnshire at the last general election. Four are Liberals and two are Social Democrats.

The appeal will irritate Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, who has repeatedly said that talk of a merger, to which he is resolutely opposed, can only inhibit the closer cooperation between the two parties which he wishes to promote.

Dr Owen is expected to repeat his views strongly at an important meeting today of the SDP's national committee. Several of its members are thought to favour an eventual merger.

The appeal by the six Lincolnshire candidates was framed at a meeting on Sunday as a petition to Dr Owen and Mr David Steel. It draws attention to "the immense practical and financial drawbacks of the Alliance partners continuing as separate entities at constituency level".



Diary

Working holidays

The Orchestra, termed on occasions as 'the world's first computing orchestra', has had the privilege of taking part once again in many of the world's music festivals this summer.

From New York to Helsinki; Sydney to Salzburg. It has just had the pleasure of renewing its warm associations with the Edinburgh Festival.

For an orchestra, a festival atmosphere, while relaxing in some aspects, provides nevertheless a particular challenge at the same time.

It is one gladly, and we believe successfully, met as critics' comments suggest: in May at the beginning... The London Symphony Orchestra under its conductor Claudio Abbado is a truly remarkable instrument.

(The Australian) and in August most recently... here were the line, breadth of phrasing, intensity of expression that seem so elusive when most musicians apply their minds to Wagner. Abbado with the LSO makes it all seem so inevitable and easy.

(Daily Telegraph)

But it is not only favourable notices that encourage, but the fact that performances are given to full houses as has been, and will be the case at festivals in New York, Sydney, Salzburg, Berlin, Helsinki, and last week at the London Prom on September 1st.

Exciting season ahead

We now look forward to the 1983-84 season when in addition to our London

Right 'coup' shifts TUC

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Blackpool

The trade union movement yesterday set itself on a course of reform and moderate leadership amid charges that a "political coup" had been successfully staged by right-wing unions.

By a convincing majority on a show of hands, delegates to the Trades Union Congress in Blackpool agreed to implement new arrangements for choosing the TUC General Council which will produce a substantial shift away

TUC reports and Frank Johnson, page 4

from the left in elections to be held today.

Moderate union leaders are looking for a landslide victory when a mixed system of automatic representation and secret balloting is used for the first time. The hard left may be reduced to a rumour of only 15 on an enlarged, 51-member ruling body.

The TUC is clearly moving to the right, and this political development is in sharp contrast to the pattern in the Labour Party, where the left-wing unions expect to regain control of the national executive next month.

But the union movement was brought sharply up against post-election realities by Mr Frank Chapple, chairman of the TUC. In his presidential address he insisted: "We will have to stop wishing that the world was like it once was, and face up to what it is."

"We have to broaden our base, not narrow it. We have to concentrate on finding the common ground that can unite our members."

On the day before the unions are confidently expected to end their boycott of talks with Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, on labour law reform, Mr Chapple argued: "We have to argue with the Government and build a partnership that can revitalize Britain."

The presidential address set the tone for the opening day of the conference which is traditionally given over to internal TUC affairs. Delegates decisively rejected a move by the radical cine technicians' union to scrap the automatic representation system that will give unions with more than 100,000 members 34 seats on the general council, leaving only 11 to be divided among more than 80 "small fry".

● Candidates in the Labour leadership election yesterday gave a sharp rebuff to the TUC's appeal that they should stay away from the congress when Mr Peter Shore and Mr Roy Hattersley appeared at the conference for a fringe meeting (David Felton writes).

Mr Shore said as he arrived yesterday for a luncheon function, organized by the moderate Labour Solidarity campaign: "I do not take orders off Mr Murray or any other trade union leader."

His leadership rival, Mr Hattersley, said it was "absurd" to suggest that his appearance in Blackpool was a rebuff for the TUC

venues we shall, thanks to the generosity of Shell U.K. Ltd., be making our annual national tour, playing at Birmingham, Manchester, Cardiff, Glasgow and Leeds.

Our next Barbican season (November 13 to December 14) in conjunction with the English Chamber Orchestra, comprises 37 concerts, including a complete Weber cycle, while artists appearing include Abbado, Ashkenazy, Boulez, Gaby, Mehta, Menuhin, Pollini and Tortorella. Further details shortly.

Of course, established masterpieces of the repertoire will be featured in the Orchestra's programmes, and we open the season at the Royal Festival Hall on Sunday 25 September when our Music Director, Claudio Abbado conducts a performance of Schumann's Piano Concerto, and Brahms' German Requiem.

Full details below.

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Sponsored by Peter Shawcross
and
Sunday 2 October 7.30
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Piano Concerto
BRAHMS
A German Requiem

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Margaret Marshall, Soprano
Hermann Prey, Baritone
London Symphony Chorus
Claudio Abbado, Conductor

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21 held on peace camp anniversary

Twenty-one women peace protesters were arrested yesterday, the second anniversary of the setting up of the camp at Greenham Common, Berkshire. The women lay in ditches and in front of workmen who were laying pipes outside the air base near Crookham Common, Berkshire.

Ms Barbara Harford, one of the campaigners, said the women had discovered only yesterday morning that the pipes were not intended to carry water, but were for carrying fuel to the base.

The women were arrested for conduct likely to cause a breach of the peace and were taken to Newbury police station.

Chief Inspector Nick Brachin said yesterday: "They will probably be released when work at the base has been finished for the evening."

Some of the original women campaigners who had marched to Greenham from Cardiff visited the peace camp to mark the anniversary.

Sunbather fell to his death

Mr Michael Peck, of Clifton Villa, Maiden Vale, West London, fell four storeys to his death when he rolled the wrong way in his sleep while sunbathing, an inquest was told yesterday.

Two flatmates read books while Mr Peck, a lighting technician aged 23, fell asleep on a narrow parapet. Miss Louise Fitzgerald, said: "I heard a rattle of trees and looked up and Michael was not there."

A verdict of accidental death was recorded by the Westminster coroner, Dr Paul Knapman.

Cannabis worth £1m seized

Customs officers claimed yesterday to have smashed a large drugs ring after seizing herbal cannabis thought to have a street value of more than £1m.

Ten men were being questioned in Liverpool last night in connexion with the recovery of the drug. The customs men had swooped on a cocoa bean lorry which had a secret compartment. They had been watching it since it was shipped into Liverpool's Huskisson Dock last week on board a Nigerian vessel.

Hunt for wife to scale down

The police are to scale down the search for Mrs Diane Jones in two weeks if no further clues are found, it was announced yesterday. But yesterday 10 more officers were drafted in to help with the search for Mrs Jones, aged 35, who disappeared from her home in Coggeshall, Essex, on July 23.

Her husband, Dr Robert Jones, aged 40, who is on holiday in Australia, has told friends he may apply to emigrate there.

Steps to save dance courses

A group to protect threatened dance courses in institutions of higher education has been set up and will be ratified next May.

Called the Standing Conference on Dance in Higher Education, it was launched in London earlier this summer. Details can be obtained from Dr Janet Adshad, dance department, University of Surrey, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5XX.

Treasury starts battle to find £2,500m savings

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, will tomorrow begin perhaps the toughest battle of his political career in his task of cutting £2,500m from departmental bids for public spending next year.

Treasury officials have reduced the total of excess bids from £6,000m, by cutting out claims for additional programmes and the inevitable "padding" of existing ones, but the remaining £2,500m will be more difficult.

Over the next four weeks or so, Mr Rees will be haggling with individual ministers, beginning tomorrow with Mr Michael Jopling, Minister for Agriculture, in an attempt to implement the Cabinet's July decision to stick to the planned spending total of £126,400m in 1984-85.

His chief difficulty is that much of the "hard-core" excess bidding relates to programmes such as social security and agricultural support which cannot be cut back without breaching government obligations. So cuts must be made elsewhere if the planned total is to be kept.

In addition nearly half of the £2,500m represents excess spending by local authorities over which the Government has relatively little control. It has already lost half the battle in conceding an additional £500m

over existing plans for English councils next year, announced by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, in July.

Defence, by contrast, accounts for only £200m to £300m of the excess bids for next year. The main battle is being fought over plans for 1986-87, after the Government's Nato pledge to boost defence spending by 3 per cent a year in real terms, expires. The Treasury is insisting that no continuing commitment to future growth is made.

The most vulnerable target in the search for cuts in undoubtedly health and social security, which represents 40 per cent of state spending. The Government is known to be considering cuts in teenagers' social security benefits, which could save up to £200m. A more general cut in unemployment benefit, saving £60m for a 5 per cent reduction in real terms has not been ruled out.

Ministers may also hope to save between £200m and £400m by limiting next year's increase in the public sector wage bill to 3 or even 2.5 per cent.

But in the end, Mr Rees may have little choice but to dig into next year's £3,000m contingency reserve, despite the Treasury's desire to preserve it intact, and to sell off more state assets to balance the books.

Civil Servants to vote on Labour link

From David Young, Blackpool

The right-wing leadership of the largest Civil Service trades union is to ballot its 200,000 members on whether it should affiliate to the Labour Party for the first time since 1927.

The executive committee of the Civil and Public Services Association is opposed to affiliation, but it is bound by the decision of its annual policy-making conference to seek its members' views on the issue.

Civil Service unions were banned from political affiliation in 1927 after the general strike and although the legislation was repealed at the end of the Second World War, the CPSA then voted by four to one in a ballot not to affiliate to the Labour Party.

The executive says in a document which will be issued after this week's Trade Union Congress: "While consensus poli-

tics was the order of the day, it was not in the interests of the CPSA to be closely allied to one of the major political parties.

"This analysis no longer holds good. The present government could hardly be more hostile towards the public sector in general especially the Civil Service and public ownership of industries such as British Telecom and the Post Office.

"Many CPSA members who sincerely believed in refraining from affiliation to the Labour Party have now changed their minds to match the changed reality of politics today.

However the union's left-wing says the issuing of the document falls short of the recent conference decision and the leadership should undertake a more active campaign to ensure support for affiliation.

Platform strike deal fails

From David Black, Glasgow

Prospects for resumed production at Highlands Fabricators oil platform yard receded yesterday after a workers' meeting rejected a 21-point peace plan negotiated between national union leaders and management.

The deal involved the rehiring of all 1,000 men dismissed after a walkout over but weather working conditions. But it included the loss of free transport to and from the yard at Nigg in north Scotland.

Despite warnings by union officials that the deal was not negotiable, the meeting demanded a return to work under pre-strike conditions, with

further negotiation after that. Mr Thomas Lafferty, an official of the Associated Union of Engineering Workers told the men he would recommend that the dispute be made official, but doubted whether it would receive national union backing.

Highlands Fabricators later issued a statement saying they were disappointed that the men had not accepted the plan, and urging them to give the position serious consideration.

The company has given a warning that it may close the yard and after the dismissals insisted only 1,600 men would be rehired.



Paddle power: Robert McLaughlin ending his circumnavigation of Britain by canoe at County Hall, London, on Sunday. Mr McLaughlin, aged 24, from Lancaster, took 143 days for the journey of 2,093 nautical miles (Photograph: John Voos)

Union to back car strikers

By a Staff Reporter

The Transport and General Workers' Union, said yesterday that it would back a strike at the company's two plants and call on its members in the docks to impose an import blockade if a new pay offer was not made.

The 15,000 Vauxhall workers at Luton, Bedfordshire, and Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, have rejected a 5 per cent offer. They argue that with productivity doubling in the past year and Vauxhall's share of the United Kingdom market rising from 7 to 14 per cent, they should receive more than last year's 9 per cent offer.

The workers' representatives at plant level have also argued that their average earnings of £120 a week are £60 a week less than wages paid for equivalent jobs at the General Motors' German plants.

A TGWU import blockade would have a quick and serious effect on Vauxhall, whose cars are in strong demand, with the Nova model being imported from a new Spanish plant.

Shop stewards from the two plants told TGWU officials in Blackpool during the Trades Union Congress yesterday that feelings in the two UK plants were already running high over the wage offer and there had been some guerrilla action by workers.

Mr Granville Hawley, the TGWU motor industry official, said: "I do not think the shop stewards will be able to hold the situation. The strongest possible approach will be made to the company, but we are not asking for talks about talks. We are asking for an improvement in the wage offer."

Representatives of workers dismissed by Austin Rover after lying to get jobs in the Cowley Oxford car assembly plant, want more talks with the company. The TGWU wants to resume a meeting adjourned three weeks ago after the management confirmed its decision to dismiss 13 of its members.

Jetty split by tug set adrift in gale

Gale force winds which wrecked havoc at the weekend were still taking their toll yesterday. The BP oil company's jetty at Angle Bay, on the Milford Haven waterway was cut in two by a tug which broke adrift during the gales.

A 100ft section of the jetty leading out from the shore was demolished, isolating the ocean terminal tanker berth from BP's shore facilities.

The unmanned tug Eskgarth had been tossed against the jetty for nearly seven hours at the weekend with BP staff powerless to help. The tug is now in Milford Haven docks with a damaged superstructure.

Parts of Northern Ireland were hit by storms gusting to hurricane force on Sunday. The Meteorological office in Belfast said. Dozens of trees were brought down, blocking a number of roads.

A cabin cruiser was sunk in Lough Swilly, off the co. Londonderry coast, but the owner managed to escape. Gusts of 80mph were reported in parts of the province, and the co. Down coast was among the worst-hit areas.

In Scotland, dozens of yachts were blown ashore when gale force winds caused havoc on the west coast. Most of the trouble was caused by pleasure craft breaking their moorings.

The Clyde coastguard was

involved in two rescues: Six English holidaymakers on their yacht Hydrovane were rescued by the Llay lifeboat as they drifted towards rocks. A crew member later described the seas as "mountainous".

And a rescue helicopter and Lays lifeboat were called out, but the yacht concerned and two people on board had been taken in tow by a fishing boat.

Several fishing vessels were also grounded at Holy Island off Arran when they broke moorings, and further north, at Oban, the coastguard reported a similar picture. Two people scrambled to safety when their yacht was blown ashore near Crinan, Argyll.

A freak gust of wind may have caused an accident which killed a woman aged 80 when her daughter's car left the road and overturned, Gwent police said.

They believe the car driven by Mrs Joan Currie was blown off the A40 near Raglan by winds of up to 80mph.

Mrs Currie's mother Mrs Doris Minett, was crushed when she was thrown out of a rear door as the car overturned on a roadside bank on Sunday afternoon.

Ian Currie, aged seven, was last night seriously ill in hospital at Aberystwyth with head injuries. Police are anxious to trace the driver of a lorry which Mrs Currie was just about to overtake when the accident happened.

Irish poll supports ban on abortion

From Our Correspondent, Dublin

The proposed amendment to the Irish constitution to include a legal ban on abortion is expected to be agreed by a majority of more than two to one in tomorrow's referendum.

An opinion poll published in the Irish Times yesterday, which was based on a survey conducted last week, found that 53 per cent would vote for the amendment, 24 per cent against, 14 per cent were undecided and 9 per cent would abstain.

The poll also found that a minority of more than two to one were in favour of capital punishment, and that a similar majority supported divorce.

The survey is seen as reflecting the recent canvass on behalf of the amendment by the Roman Catholic clergy and the main opposition party, Fianna Fail.

'Thatcher briefing leak'

A leak from the highest reaches of the Northern Ireland Office and the Foreign Office to the Rev Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party is expected to be revealed at a press conference in the party's headquarters in Belfast this morning.

Mr Peter Robinson, MP for Belfast East, and the DUP deputy leader, claims to have obtained confidential briefing papers being prepared for the Prime Minister in time for the next Anglo-Irish summit meeting. He plans to show these to reporters today.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher is expected to meet Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Irish Prime Minister, in November for what is being seen as a resumption of moves towards closer inter-governmental ties and particularly an agreed joint approach to Northern Ireland.

This process, begun in 1979, was interrupted by the decline in relations between Whitehall and Dublin during the Falklands crisis last year.

Mr Robinson says the briefing papers were leaked to the DUP by a British source sympathetic to the unionists' view.

It is thought that today's press conference will be taken by Mr Paisley, although this could not be confirmed last night. If the party does produce the documents it claims to possess, it will not be the first time the Stormont authorities have been embarrassed by a "mole" passing documents to the DUP. There have been several such instances in recent years and the party has also apparently obtained documents from sources within the police and Army from time to time.

Britain may join Europe in developing reactors

Britain is to apply to join forces with other EEC countries rather than the United States on development of fast-breeder nuclear reactors.

Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, announced yesterday that the Government had decided to open formal negotiations on joint development of fast reactors with France, Germany, Italy, Belgium and The Netherlands.

"Britain is among the world leaders in the development of this technology, but by seeking to join this European 'Club' we expect to gain both technically and economically", he said.

Although the United States has expertise in building reactor components, France is the only country which has so far built fast-breeder reactors on a commercial rather than an experimental scale. Its Super Phoenix is due to begin operations next year.

Nuclear industry leaders in Britain also prefer cooperating



Mr Walker: Seeking to join European 'club'

with Europe because of what they call the uncertain political climate in the United States towards fast-breeder reactors.

The advantage of the fast-breeder is that it can be used as fuel the plutonium produced as a by-product from conventional nuclear power stations.

£5m study of acid rain damage

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A British-financed £5m research project is to be undertaken into the impact of acid rain on the soil, waterways and fisheries of Norway and Sweden.

The first year project will be in the hands of the Royal Society, the Norwegian Academy of Sciences and the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. It will be paid for by the Central Electricity Generating Board and the National Coal Board.

The research will not be concerned with the complex processes of how industrial discharges create acid rain, nor with the degree to which reductions in the emissions of sulphur dioxide from coal-fired power stations and industrial boilers in Britain would change the acidity of rainfall over parts of Norway and Sweden.

The electricity and coal boards proposed the research fund with the aim of finding answers to four key questions:

What factors, in addition to changes in acidity, affect fisheries in the lakes of Norway and Sweden?

What improvements in the chemistry of surface water would come from reductions of man-made sulphur emissions?

What levels of acidity can various fish species tolerate?

How do the biological, chemical and hydrogeological characteristics of catchments influence the composition of water quality?

However, the electricity board accepts that a further key question centres on its power stations and how a cut in their sulphur dioxide discharges would reduce acidity in Norway and

Sweden. That issue is said to be the subject of other well-funded research in atmospheric chemistry.

It is more than 10 years since the Swedish Government proposed action to the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment to avert acid rain damage.

Although rejected at the time, most of Norway and Sweden's European neighbours recognise that their activities are responsible for a large proportion of acid rain falling in southern Scandinavia, and that Britain may be the largest contributor.

But the electricity generating board suggests that the present situation may have been developing over a longer period than the 15 to 20 years usually indicated. Hence, the board rejected specific

proposals to reduce the deposition of sulphur in Southern Scandinavia to less than half a gram a square metre a year to stop the acidification trend.

The measures would call for a 75 per cent reduction of sulphur dioxide discharges in Britain, which the electricity board calculates would cost £4,000m in capital investment to clean gases.

Nevertheless, an alternative strategy for dealing with pollutants was suggested yesterday at a Royal Society conference on the effects of substances deposited as acid rain and as dry particulates.

The idea came from Mr P. Goldsmith of the Meteorological Office. He said recent monitoring work in Britain showed that acid rain was not a steady phenomenon spread across the year.

Rubella survives despite vaccine

A medical expert said yesterday that the congenital rubella syndrome - German measles - had remained virtually the same despite a highly effective vaccine.

Sir Cyril Clarke, Emeritus Professor of Medicine at the University of Liverpool, said rubella, "a devastating congenital abnormality with cataracts, heart disease, deafness and mental retardation", was preventable. Sir Cyril was speaking to the seventeenth triennial conference of the Institute of Medical Laboratory Sciences, the day after a newspaper said Britain faced a German measles epidemic in the autumn.

Sir Cyril, speaking at Stirling University, said girls aged between 10 and 14 were offered the vaccine which was comparatively free of reactions. The inoculation programme had been in operation for 15 years but rubella had remained the same, he said. This was because 75 per cent had antibodies and because half the remaining 25 per cent refused vaccination.

"Sometimes this is for no obvious reason, but more often because either the parent or grandmother says: 'She had measles when she was young'."

"Never believe this," Sir Cyril said. "Rubella is over-diagnosed. Any transient rash in a child is liable to be called this, whereas in fact many are the result of mild sensitivity to antibiotics."

Sir Cyril praised the situation in Sweden where girls were vaccinated once at 18 months and then at the age of 12. He said there was an interesting problem in the underdeveloped countries where there was a lot of deafness. "But no one yet knows how far rubella is responsible and a great deal of fieldwork needs doing."

Opening the conference, Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Scotland said that the Government saw a role for private enterprise in health care, though it would not depart from the pledge to support a comprehensive and integrated National Health Service.

"We do not accept that the development of private health care facilities is detrimental to the interests of the health service or that such developments necessarily take away resources from existing hospital services."

"We see it more as a matter of private health care, complementing the work of the NHS and easing some of the pressures on the public services," he said.

Health authorities and everyone else had to get used to the idea of managing and developing health services.

New delay in David Martin trial

By John Witherow

David Martin, the man police were hunting when they shot Mr Stephen Waddell in a west London street in January, had his trial postponed for a week yesterday when he requested legal representation.

Mr Justice Kilner Brown, sitting in the Central Criminal Court, agreed a last minute request by Mr Martin that he should have legal aid to take on a solicitor and two counsel.

Mr Martin, aged 36, of Crawford Place, Marylebone, central London, who is accused of attempting to murder a policeman, had previously refused legal aid and had dismissed two solicitors, saying he intended to defend himself. But he told the judge that he had not had time to consider all the documents.

Mr Justice Kilner Brown said that because this was a serious case, he could see a complaint being made to the Court of Appeal. If Mr Martin was not given a last opportunity to change his mind over legal representation.

He is charged with the attempted murder of PC Nicholas Carr, four burglaries, a £25,000 bank robbery, injuring a security guard, stealing property including 24 handbags, 15 rounds of ammunition, gun belts and holsters, stealing two cars, possessing guns with intent to endanger life and making use of guns in order to resist arrest.

'Save GLC' tour by Livingstone

By David Walker

Mr Kenneth Livingstone tomorrow begins a month-long assault on the annual round of union and party conferences in order to put the case for the Greater London Council's survival.

He will speak at a succession of fringe meetings, beginning with the Trades Union Congress in Blackpool and ending, in the same resort, with the Conservatives. In between he will visit the Social Democrats in Salford, the Liberals in Harrogate and the Labour Party in Brighton.

Accompanying the GLC's Labour leader will be an exhibition of its achievements to be set up in conference halls - including the TUC conference as a result of a court decision yesterday.

A High Court judge granted the GLC an injunction against the landlords of the Hounds Hill shopping precinct in Blackpool where space had been booked for the exhibition. Last week the landlords, John Laing, the building and property company, cancelled the booking. A GLC



Mr Livingstone: putting the case for survival

spokesman said the exhibition would go ahead at the TUC today and tomorrow, a second booking for the Conservative conference, also cancelled, had still to be decided.

Mr Livingstone's staff have arranged a meeting at the Tory conference in a hotel and have invited the Conservative leader at County Hall Mr Alan Greensh, to appear on the same platform. Mr Greensh has not yet responded to the invitation to appear with Mr Livingstone at Brighton in order to make a bipartisan case for the GLC to the Labour conference.

Resolutions against the GLC's abolition have been tabled for the Liberals' conference.

Mr Reg Race, a former Labour MP who lost his constituency Haringey, Wood Green, through boundary changes, is to be considered later this week for a £20,000-plus job at the GLC.

Muslim parents' plan to buy schools faces defeat

By Lucy Hodges Education Correspondent

A proposal from Muslim parents in Bradford that they be allowed to buy five state schools and turn them into Muslim voluntary-aided schools looks set to be defeated tonight.

A paper drawn up by Bradford's education officers after seven months of discussion and consultation comes down firmly against the proposal from the Muslim Parents' Association that Whetley and Green Lane first schools, Manningham and Drummond middle schools and Belle Vue girls' upper school go Muslim.

The report, to be considered by the education committee tonight, says the proposal to set up the Muslim schools, on the basis of Church of England voluntary-aided schools, has not been welcomed either by the majority or the minority community in Bradford. They "have aroused deep concern about their possibly divisive effects".

The Muslim Parents' Association

Father killed

Mr Leigh Harrison, aged 33, of Filton-on-the-Hill, Leicester, was killed and his wife and children were injured, when their car collided with two lorries at Kiplington, Oxfordshire.

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Private detective killed solicitor's wife for promise of £10,000

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

A woman paid a part-time private detective £5,000 and promised the same amount again to kill a solicitor's wife, Birmingham Crown Court was told yesterday.

Julian Zajac, aged 29, of Napier Road, Avonmouth, near Bristol, who admitted murdering Mrs Shirley Rendell, aged 46, at her home in Yatton, Somerset, on February 23, was jailed for life. He had battered her repeatedly with a hammer and stabbed her 10 times in the throat.

Mr Justice Stephen Brown was told by Mr Roger Titheridge, QC, for the prosecution, that the murder was "counselled and procured" by a woman who was at present at liberty. "It is the intention of the Crown to proceed against her for murder and the defendant has expressed willingness to give evidence against her."

The judge had said earlier that he would make no order about naming the woman. "I would rely on the good sense of the press as the woman is likely to be arrested today and charged with murder," he said. If someone else was to be tried it was important to understand that a statement of apparent fact was an allegation only as far as that person was concerned, he said.

Mr Titheridge had read from a statement by Zajac about the woman.

It said: "I feel she is such an evil person, for without her I would never have got involved. She is such a strong personality, she made me feel like a small boy with her."

Mr Titheridge said that Mrs Rendell had been described by almost everyone who knew her as "a kind, cheerful and generous woman". On February 23, her husband, Mr Hugh Rendell, left for a 9.30am appointment arranged by Zajac under a false



Mrs Rendell: Battered and stabbed

name to ensure that he was out of the bungalow.

At 9.00am Mrs Rendell was in her bedroom speaking on the telephone to a local builder. She saw an old car stop outside the house and a man get out with a parcel. She interrupted her call, answered the front door and then returned to the telephone to say she would be in touch later.

She returned and she was beaten with a hammer and stabbed. Death was caused by a substantial number of blows from a hammer inflicted before the knife was used, the court heard.

Mr Titheridge said that Zajac did not know Mrs Rendell and had no reason for wishing her harm. He had done it for money, £5,000 down and the promise of £5,000 in December.

At first police inquiries led nowhere until a man named Daniels told them that Zajac had told him of a plot to harm Mrs Rendell. At the time he had not taken it seriously.

Zajac, a worker at the Commonwealth smelting plant at Avonmouth, who also ran an agency called Eagle Investigations, later confessed to police that he had been approached in

October by someone whom he thought was a man because of the deepness of the voice.

A meeting was arranged when he discovered that it was a woman. Zajac said that he was asked to follow a male friend of Mrs Rendell, but was told later: "I want Mrs Rendell killed."

Zajac bought two shotguns on February 14 and before the murder he stole a white Mini.

In his statement to the police, Zajac said that he had been drinking all the time through nerves or guilt. He decided to make an attempt to go through with his contract. He drove to the bungalow and walked up the drive.

"I was carrying the shotgun in my left hand. It was still in the box and gift wrapping. At that stage I did not know what I was going to do, but I was not going to kill her."

"The front door was slightly open and she came to the door I said: 'Can you sign for this parcel, please.' She went back indoors and came back with the pen in her hand."

"I grabbed at her and she started screaming and struggling and I must have lost my head. We fell to the floor. I tried to calm her down and said: 'Do not worry, I have only come here to rob you'. And I hit her."

"I hit her with the hammer which I had taken from my coat pocket. I had left the parcel on the floor inside the front door. I had the hammer and the knife in my coat pocket because I had taken them there so she would think someone had been there to kill her."

"I lost my head. I cannot remember how many times I hit her with the hammer."

"I stood up thinking: 'What have I done? She was still alive so I panicked and stabbed her in the throat with the knife and then ran out."



Eastern star: Japanese performer Akiko, who is taking part in the World Music Village festival being held in Holland Park and at the Commonwealth Institute, London

Immobility progress report

Clamp clears the kerbs

By Alan Hamilton

Putting the Deaver Boot in has had a salutary effect on the behaviour of London's motorists, according to traffic officers of the Metropolitan Police.

Since a year long experiment in its use began a little over three months ago, the Deaver Boot, an immobilising clamp so-called for its effective employment in the state capital of Colorado, has been applied to the wheels of between 8,500 and 9,000 illegally parked cars in a small and tightly defined area of central London. Police officers involved in the scheme report that there is now clear kerb space in parking black spots where there was none before.

The Boot test is being monitored by the Government's Transport and Road Research Laboratory, whose report next year will largely determine whether use of the device will be confined and extended to other areas of London and to other congested cities.

The police are already talking of the Boot with some enthusiasm. A Scotland Yard spokesman said yesterday: "On the whole, parking in London has become much easier, and we have had an encouraging response both from members of the public in residential areas, and from business premises whose goods vehicles previously could not park for loading and unloading."

Sheer inconvenience, in the police view, is the secret of the Boot's efficiency. A stricken motorist has to make his way to the police pound at Hyde Park and pay a total of £29.50 to have his vehicle released. Drivers then have to wait about an hour for the cruising police van to arrive with the key and remove the clamp.

The psychology of inconvenience was explained yesterday by Professor Tony Day, of the chair of transport engineering at Leeds University, who has made a study of London traffic problems. "If you are thinking about

parking illegally, you weigh up intuitively the chances of being caught, which are generally low, and the scale of the penalty. If you get a fixed penalty notice, you have a 50 per cent chance of getting away with it, and the sums are sufficiently small for many people not to be troubled by them, or to pass them on to their employers."

"Wheel clamps make the percentage chance of being caught very much higher. They also require the victim to spend a considerable amount of time waiting for the police to come and unlock them. Inconvenience is more democratic than money: it affects everyone equally."

Wheel clamps had been tried in other cities, like Washington, with less success than in London, Professor Day said. The key to London's success was using them only in a small and intensively patrolled area.

Removal of the wheel clamp has defeated all but the most dedicated illegal parkers, and only 12 have succeeded.

TV joins drive to help people add up

By Lucy Hodges
Education Correspondent

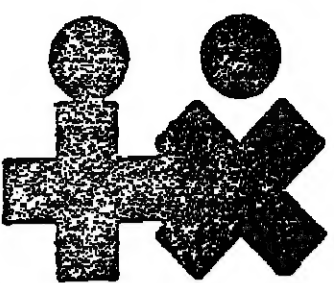
One in 10 adults, about 3.25 million people, cannot add up the cost of a few items bought in a shop or work out how much three courses from a menu will cost them. More than one in four adults cannot calculate the change due from a £5 note after buying an item.

To help them, and thereby enable them to compete better for jobs and training schemes, a campaign on the lines of the literacy campaign in the 1970s is being mounted next week, using posters, a specially designed symbol showing a plus and multiplication sign (right), and programmes on Channel 4.

The initiative is unusual in that it is a collaborative effort involving Channel 4, Yorkshire Television, the Adult Literacy and Basic Skills Unit, the National Extension College and the Post Office. Two million letters are being franked with a message alerting people to National Numeracy Week, September 12 to 19.

The television programme, *Counting On*, will be shown at prime viewing time, 6.30 pm, from Monday and this will be accompanied by a workbook containing quizzes. These will be marked within hours by the National Extension College, which is using its own specially designed microcomputer system NAA (micro aided learning) to give quick replies.

Mr Christopher Jelley, head of education at Yorkshire Television, which made the television programmes, said: "There are



many who feel their lack of numeracy to be a very severe handicap. In the programmes we have tried to take the viewer seriously."

"They are not wildly entertaining programmes full of jokes. We do try to recognize that our target audience wants to learn." The programmes explain the basics of addition, subtraction, decimals, fractions and so on, as well as teaching about inflation, calorie counting and home computers.

There is evidence that many people have difficulty with basic numeracy. One in 10 has difficulty adding up, more than a quarter have trouble with subtraction and almost a third cannot deal with multiplication, division or with percentages. Women, in particular, seem to lack confidence.

A Gallup survey in 1981 found that four out of 10 people could not read a 24 hour timetable. More than 60 per cent got this question wrong: "What is happening to prices when the rate of inflation is decreasing?" The reply is that prices are still going up but at a lower rate. Most people think it means prices are falling.

Pub 'posse' captured jewel thief

Customers at a public house formed a posse when an elderly woman screamed that she had been mugged. Led by James Goldie, aged 32, they rushed out to capture the thief.

After a chase through the streets they trapped the youth, aged 17, who was beaten before being handed over to the police, the Central Criminal Court heard yesterday. John Smart, unemployed, of Geffrye Street, Bethnal Green, east London, was convicted of robbing Mrs Catherine Brazill, aged 67, of a £500 gold chain and pendant in December. He was put on probation for two years with a condition that he attends an education project. He denied the charge and claimed his capture was a case of "mistaken identity".

Mr Recorder Hill, QC, praised the customers from the Old King John's Head in Whiston Road, Bethnal Green, for their "public spirit".

Mr Kevin Dehaan, for the prosecution, said that they had been enjoying a Saturday afternoon drink when Mrs Brazill stumbled into the bar. She cried out: "I have been mugged."

Macfarlane calls for fight report

Mr Neil Macfarlane, Under Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment with responsibility for sport, returned from his summer holiday yesterday and immediately called for full reports from all concerned with Saturday's crowd disturbances at the Brighton & Chelsea football match.

He said: "We spent the whole of the summer liaising with football authorities to try to ensure that these disastrous scenes would not be repeated. We especially concentrated on the flash points where known troublemakers would be appearing particularly matches involving Chelsea, to make sure that the police and the club took the most stringent precautions to eliminate the sort of violence that seems to have occurred."

The Football Association is awaiting the report from the referee Mr Ken Baker, before announcing "what action it will take. It will also call for reports from the police, as well as both clubs. Into the incidents which left seven policemen injured after a pitch battle. There were 125 arrests, and more than 40 people were treated in hospital."

Man 'killed' trying to stop attack

A man was stabbed to death when he tried to rescue a neighbour who was being attacked. The Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Mr Donald Stockwell, aged 44, a driver, of Worples Road, Isleworth, west London, got out of bed to save a man being attacked by a gang in the street outside, Mr Roy Amlot, for the prosecution, said. But two of the men turned on him, knifed him four times and he collapsed from a wound through the heart.

"Most people would have ducked their heads and stayed indoors," Mr Amlot said.

Thomas Downing, aged 22, of Cherry Crescent, and David Skipp, aged 21, of Hamilton Road, both of Brentford, west London, deny murdering Mr Stockwell in January. The two men and Gary Owen, aged 26, of Summerwood Road, Isleworth, all deny causing an affray.

The trial continues today.

Brighton calls were hoaxes

Two telephone calls in which a man claimed to know one of three men involved in a sex attack on a boy aged six in Brighton have been discounted as hoaxes. A Yorkshire policeman recognized the caller's voice from a tape recording.

A man, believed to be an alcoholic homosexual, has been interviewed in Huddersfield and papers have been sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Burrell museum work delayed

Glasgow's new Burrell Museum, will not be completed when the Queen opens the £20m project on October 21. City councillors learned yesterday that some construction work will still be going on next year.

At a hastily convened meeting yesterday, the council's organizing sub-committee, and before a report listing all outstanding areas. It included remedying work previously noted as unacceptable.

Gunmen snatch £25,000

Two gunmen wearing ski masks snatched £25,000 from Security Express guards in a van outside the National Westminster Bank at the Broadway, New Haw, Surrey, yesterday.

The raiders got into a car with a third man at the wheel and escaped as one of the guards tried to give chase.

US base fire

Forensic scientists and detectives were yesterday examining the debris of a fire which started on Saturday at the United States Air Force base at High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

Threat trial

A man accused of threatening to kill the Prince of Wales was yesterday committed for trial at Aylesbury Crown Court. Dunstan Dunstan, aged 29, who is unemployed and lives on a boat moored at Aylesbury, was remanded in custody.

Painting charge

Three men appeared at Edinburgh Sheriff Court yesterday charged with causing wilful and malicious damage to a painting at St Mary's Cathedral in the City.

TV-am to pay Jay £120,000

By David Hewson

Mr Peter Jay is to receive £120,000 from TV-am after his departure as the independent breakfast station's chief executive and chairman earlier this year.

The company's shareholders voted for the pay-off at an extraordinary meeting yesterday. Mr Jay, whose salary with the station was £50,000 a year, is to be given a small amount as a down-payment, with the remainder in instalments.

TV-am said yesterday that the shareholders' meeting was a formality under the Companies Act. "It was called just to discuss this and only lasted a few minutes."

The company is still trying to agree pay-offs for Miss Anna Ford and Miss Angela Rippon, the dismissed presenters, who have rejected offers of £25,000 each. TV-am said that the involvement of Mr Robert Kee, one of the original presenters, was a matter of discussion with the company at the moment.

"There are no plans for him to appear, neither are there any plans for him not to appear."

Mr Kee has not been seen on the channel for some weeks, and the company's forthcoming serious political interviews are to be undertaken by Mr John



Mr Peter Jay: Pay-off by instalments

Stapleton, who has just moved from *Newswatch*.

Audience ratings released yesterday showed that the station was continuing to run neck-and-neck with the BBC's *Breakfast Time* on most weekday mornings. Its average peak quarter hour audience during the week slipped by 100,000 to 1.6 million while the BBC's rose by 200,000 to 1.3 million. The figures, for the week ending August 28, indicated that TV-am reached 5.4 million individuals during the week against the BBC's 4.1 million.

Raymond faces summons over sex shop

Dreaming Lips, a sex shop in premises owned by Mr Paul Raymond, the impresario, was operating without a licence when raided by police. Bow Street Magistrates' Court in London was told yesterday.

The store in Soho was busy with customers and crammed with magazines, records, films and sex aids when it was visited twice last February, the court heard.

Mr Raymond, aged 57, of Arlington Street, St James, London, faces two summonses for permitting the use of the premises without a licence. His company, the Paul Raymond Organization, faces two similar summonses.

The hearing is the first case of its kind under the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1982, Mr Richard du Cann, for Westminster, QC, said.

Mr Victor Durand, QC, for Mr Raymond, said the lease on the shop was stringent in terms of use, but responsibility for this matter was out of his client's hands.

The hearing continues today.

First electronic school magazine claim by pupils

By Clive Cookson
Technology Correspondent

A group of West Midlands children have brought out what they claim is the world's first electronic school magazine.

Nine pupils aged 13 and 14 at Light Hall Secondary School, Solihull, produced their magazine for Club 403, a home shopping and information service for the Birmingham area, using the Prestel videodata network.

Club 403 subscribers include 40 secondary schools and colleges in the West Midlands. "Light Hall has attracted a lot of interest and rivalry among other schools", Dr Robert McKee, Club 403 education manager, said. "We are trying to get all 40 to produce electronic magazines by launching a competition next month."

Dr McKee hopes to get Light Hall into the *Guinness Book of Records* as the first electronic school magazine in the world.

The first edition of the Light Hall magazine carries 12 pages of pupils' quizzes, stories, jokes and poems. Future issues will include computer graphics.

Town ready for war on badgers

The townspeople of Castle Cary in Somerset are to hold a second public meeting to decide what they can do about dozens of badgers that have set up home in the area, invading and damaging gardens and, it is feared, undermining the foundations of buildings.

The meeting, later this month, is likely to hear demands that licences should be granted by the Ministry of Agriculture so that at least some of the badgers can be trapped and moved or killed.

Some gardens in the centre of Castle Cary have been turned into fortresses in an attempt to keep the badgers out. Someone put up an electric fence, but to no avail.

Recently, the underground workings of badgers toppled an oil tank on a factory site and there are worries that a new housing association development may have been built on a large badger settlement.

Mrs Ruth Murray, a conservationist from Dorchester, removed some badgers from the area two years ago and released them in Devon. She has now promised to carry out a similar operation in Castle Cary.

However, at the first public meeting in the town many local people said this was not enough and demanded the right to deal with the badgers in their own way.

Irish jobless up

The number of unemployed in the Irish Republic has reached a record 194,000, which, at 15 per cent, gives the country the highest proportion of people out of work in the EEC.

Police build picture of headless girl

Police scientists are sifting half a ton of soil taken from the Devon forest area where a woman's headless body was found on Saturday.

A painstaking search has been launched in a wide area under and around her body for clues to her killer. She had been shot.

But despite nation wide inquiries, police are still baffled about her identity. Their only new discovery is that she was wearing bright mauve nail varnish.

The woman, aged between 15 and 30 was found in dense undergrowth at the edge of a popular woodland covering spot 50 yards from the main Exeter to Torbay road at Telegraph Hill.

Dressed in beige shorts and a white tee-shirt, she had been shot

several times at close range. But so far the calibre of the weapon has not been established. The bullets fragmented considerably, causing injuries resembling shrapnel wounds.

As nearly a hundred officers stepped up the hunt through the forest for the woman's missing head, detectives continued checks on camping and caravan sites in the area.

The fingerprints of Veronique Marre, a French girl who has been missing from Cambridgeshire for three weeks, have been sent to the Exeter-based murder headquarters.

Det Chief Supt John Bissett, head of Devon and Cornwall CID, said: "We have had a magnificent response from the public but we are still no nearer

to identifying the murder victim. "We are anxious to hear from any importers or distributors of the Thai-made pumpkins she was wearing."

"It is a long and gradual process but we are building up a picture of the victim. We know she was about 5ft 11in tall with a slim build - she had a 21-inch waist. Her hair could be brown or auburn and she was wearing bright mauve nail varnish."

"Unfortunately, the state of the body has made it very difficult for scientists to pinpoint her age more exactly than 15 to 30."

"We are at the start of what could be a very difficult inquiry and there is a tremendous amount of work."

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TUC BLACKPOOL 1983

● Chapple on reforms

● Election policies

● Trade group rights

Threats to governments 'a dangerous boomerang' Chapple tells delegates

Threats to destroy elected governments were not only infantile but they were also a dangerous boomerang, Mr Frank Chapple, chairman of the TUC General Council, said when he addressed the 115th Trades Union Congress which opened in Blackpool yesterday. Such action, he said, alienated unions from their members as well as threatened the only type of society that guaranteed their own freedom.

Mr Chapple, who is general secretary of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union (EETPU) and in his last year as a member of the general council, said, in calling on the movement to refashion itself in order to strengthen its appeal, that sometimes unions appeared to act as though they were the mouthpiece of a few.

"We must never trust our members with contempt or distrust their judgment. We will have to understand that solidarity is not just the majority supporting the majority, but the few supporting the majority. We cannot claim to protect the interests of ourselves alone, actions which inflict harm upon them."

The government would eventually learn that free market extravaganzas were just as irrelevant as the inefficiencies of state planning bureaucracies, but in the meantime unemployment and its social problems would remain intolerably high.

"That is why our role is clear. That is why we have to argue with the Government and build a partnership that can revitalize Britain. We cannot content out of this responsibility or behave like some obscure religious sect that insists on not talking to unbelievers."

To a mixture of loud hissing and cheers, Mr Chapple added: "I am sure that the majority of our

Reports from Alan Wood, Gordon Wellman, and Stephen Goodwin

members are as baffled as I am that some trade union leaders will travel half way across the world to sympathise with Communist dictators, yet seek to prevent the TUC from talking to the elected Government of Britain."

Apart from being the voice of the movement, the congress also had to provide leadership. It had to be representative, brave enough to face difficult decisions, and far-sighted enough to see where members had not even begun to look.

"Crucial to these qualities is the willingness, indeed the determination, to look reality in the face; to confront the truth; to assess where we are. There is no doubt that our movement has suffered in the past few years. Membership has fallen from a high of 12 million in 1980 to 10.5 million by the latest count."

Politically there had also been setbacks. Not only had new employment laws been passed and policies, active, brave enough to face difficult decisions, and far-sighted enough to see where members had not even begun to look.

"And, if this were not bad enough, our own party, the Labour Party, was humiliated with its defeat in 1982. It is extremely unlikely that Labour can win in 1985," Mr Chapple said to some jeers.

Trade unionism might be on the defensive, the president added, but it was neither defeated nor as "finished" as some commentators said.

"Despite our membership losses, we still organize over 50 per cent of the employed population and unemployment has hit the organized harder than it has hit the organized."

Notwithstanding press criticism and the hostility of the Government, millions continue to vote for the movement with their money every week. Many unions had recruited during the recession, although not always quickly enough to compensate for the losses incurred by factory closures.

The record of the past five years was that the membership had shown faith in its leaders. Part of leadership was reorientating that faith, listening and learning from the millions who made up the movement.

"No one can pretend that these millions have not spoken. For more than 20 years our public popularity has been sliding - at the same time too many of our members have been expressing their unease."

"This unease has not all been simply whipped up by right-wing newspapers or manufactured by opinion pollsters. It has also reflected itself in the mass desertion of Labour votes and the support which this Government's industrial relations legislation has attracted."

It was crucially important that the movement should recognize those criticisms. "If we had listened earlier, we might not have suffered the catastrophe of June 9 or the defeat of five years ago."

"Accepting that we ourselves have to make necessary reforms, not only give us a fighting chance of regaining the trust we have allowed to wither; it would also blunt the attacks made upon us, put an end to some of self-inflicted absurdities we stumble into, and strengthen our stance."



Deep discussion: Mr Chapple (left) with Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, in Blackpool yesterday (Photograph: John Manning)

Employers' advisers condemned

There were now consultants, mainly from the United States but some British, who specialized in advising employers on how to avoid trade unions, Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union, said.

He moved a motion asking the congress to condemn the use of anti-trade union consultants in advising employers, particularly multinational employers, on the evasion of effective trade union recognition and collective bargaining.

The motion, which was unanimously approved, instructed the general council to monitor and publicize such consultants' activities and to advise affiliated unions so that effective and public pressure could be brought to counter this "dangerous development".

Mr William Sims, general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, said that "American - union busting" techniques were being used in Britain. The first sign that the British Steel Corporation, with Tory Government backing, was applying such wrecking methods came shortly after the 13 week strike in 1980.

Attempt to change voting rules fails

Without a card vote, the congress threw out an attempt to change the new system under which unions with more than 100,000 members have been able to nominate a total of 34 members of the general council, with smaller unions electing 11 members and a further election for 6 women members. Voting for the latter 17 takes place today.

Mr Alan Sepper, of the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians, who in the voting today hopes to be one of the 11 elected to the general council of which he is a past chairman, complained that the new "automatic" proposals for nominations to the general council were divisive.

The smaller unions, he said, had been subjected to more intense patronage than under the old trade group system. About seven separate lists of right-wing and left-wing names had been circulated, culminating in a right-wing "hit-list" of those to be eliminated in the election.

possibility of some unions supplanting their membership by luring the residents of the local community.

The motion which the conference rejected had sought to instruct the general council to present a report next year containing proposals for a revised trade group structure and a general council that would be elected annually by the Congress as a whole.

Mr Sepper said he feared that powerful self-selected representatives of the big unions might dominate the new scrambled egg of the general council. The movement would be weakened.

Mr Bryan Stanley, secretary of the Post Office Engineering Union, called on the congress to confirm its decisions of the past two years and to reject what was virtually the old system. That system had been unfair and flawed by patronage.

The ACTAT motion was heavily defeated on a show of hands.

Today's debates

Today's conference debates will include the Government's trade union legislation, wages councils, the Youth Training Scheme, organizing the unemployed, civil liberties, trades councils, social insurance, and industrial welfare issues.

Frank Johnson at Blackpool

Of capitalism and Yates's wine bar

Once more to Blackpool, then, for the first day of the Trades Union Congress and therefore the first day of a new political year.

Even first thing in the morning, it was a day marked by giant waves. This is a reference, not only to the legendary, blow-drying skills of the relays of hairdressers employed to combed Mr Arthur Scargill's bald patch, but to the raging seas and whistling winds that made the journey along the promenade to the hall so exhilarating. Of Mr Scargill, his patch, and his waves, however, more later.

"Seven million people went hungry at one time or another in the past year," began the lead story in the *Militant* newspaper, available outside the hall. In my own case, I remembered the time well. It was last June in Blackpool. There are a few good restaurants in the town. But they are difficult to get into, especially when the full-time trade union officials are here in force, with their famed, almost unlimited expenses. So, at one time or another, millions go hungry.

But on closer inspection, it emerged that the *Militant* story was about something else entirely: nutrition under Thatcherism. It was just another routinely preposterous tale of misery.

There was strong competition between *Militant* and the rival sheets of the left to offer delegates the most exciting atrocity stories smuggled out of Thatcher-occupied Britain. "The new McCarthyism" shrieked the big black headline of *Union Voice*. Most - see left-wing readers with a knowledge of twentieth-century history would automatically assume this to be a reference to the sinister, witch-hunting Lord McCarthy and his notorious Nuffield College, the man whose "industrial arbitration" methods raised so many lives at the height of the union terror of the 1970s.

In fact, the paper's McCarthy was a plainly daft American politician of limited and brief influence in the 1950s who has been of great benefit to communists everywhere ever since. This man was supposed now to be inspiring Mr Norman Tebbit's policy on industrial spies.

The circulation war between these sensationalist tabloids continued with *Militant* hitting back with a section on battered wives. "Only Marxism," a reader's letter said on the subject, "can explain why this phenomenon is widespread in our society." This would have

come as a surprise to a woman much exploited by Marxism. Marx's wife, the kindly and surely not-upon-Jenny.

Happily, all the papers were agreed as to the causes of all the ills, disappointments and inconveniences in which they traded. They blamed capitalism. Inside the hall, they were less confident about that. For this year the right wing was in a stronger shape than for many years.

This year's president condemned those trade unionists who were unprepared to talk to the elected representative of the British people, but were prepared to talk to the unelected representative of the Soviet people. True, he was whistled and booed a bit for that. But one sensed the presence of a silent majority before him, confirmed later in the day when under the guise of high sounding constitutional reform, the right voted lots of small, left-wing moves off the general council and into oblivion.

But, right of left, the mood was one of gloom deepened by the state of the nation. In the hall, they were less confident about that. For this year the right wing was in a stronger shape than for many years.

I found Mr Stanley Orme the Opposition spokesman on industry, and expressed the view that what had happened to the place was disgraceful. He agreed. He blamed capitalism. "Market forces," he said. While remaining superseded by the left, blaming capitalism for battered wives, I think they have a point on wine bars.

By nightfall, the left had parked up a little at the Tribune rally. Mr Wedgwood Benn puffed serenely on his pipe. Mr Scargill rose beneath his "why don't you come over and join our" banter, and raged contentedly.

As I did last year, I raise the air issue, not for purposes of vulgar, personal abuse, but because what it signifies is that a man who believes that he and his friends should plan our entire economy thinks the rest of us are too foolish, not just to plan our own personal economies, but to spot that he is paid. But he was a true socialist with a loyal audience. He covered nearly everything, including football hooliganism, which of course he blamed on capitalism.

No need for a U-turn on election policy, Labour Party chairman says

Mr Sam McCuskie, chairman of the Labour Party, was loudly applauded when he asserted that there was no case for a complete U-turn in the policies on which they fought the last election. It was for the congress to decide how it dealt with the government of the day, but, he said, "Let us have no talk about weakening the bonds between the Labour Party and the TUC."

Mr McCuskie said that the election result could not be blamed entirely on the right-wing bias of the press or the Falklands factor. The biggest thing that gave the Conservatives their massive victory was the Labour Party itself. He continued: "You at this conference set many of the themes that are carried at the Labour Party

conference so if there is something wrong with the Labour Party, there is something wrong with you because you are the people that make the policies."

The people had passed harsh judgments on the Labour Party and three things needed to be done. First, it had to stop the constitutional squabbling. Second, it had to end the factional rivalries and unite around the new leadership which would be elected next month. Finally, and most importantly, it must not panic.

It would be wrong to over-react to the defeat on June 9 by demolishing the entire party's policy. The Labour Party had to improve its professionalism and its publicity techniques to get over its policies much better to the people.

There should be no U-turn on policy because it was still a national disgrace that four million people were out of work. He was not sure they could get them all back to work but they could try and the only way would be by sensible socialist policies which would be as relevant in five years' time as they were at the last election.

The movement had to defend the NHS and that would be as relevant in five years' time as it was at the election. It was still a moral imperative that billions were spent on creating the weapons of mass destruction.

Under the present Government things would only get worse and if ever there was a time for unity between the two sides of the movement it was now, he said.

Mr William Sims, general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, said that "American - union busting" techniques were being used in Britain. The first sign that the British Steel Corporation, with Tory Government backing, was applying such wrecking methods came shortly after the 13 week strike in 1980.

Some larger unions with more than 100,000 members had been replying to accusations against them that they manipulated their membership figures in an outrageous way. That behaviour had deflected the energies and attention of the general council and had divided it as a time when the need was for maximum possible unity.

The "numbers game" was in fashion. There was now the

Fowler restates pledge to elderly

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, yesterday restated his pledge to improve the health service and to elderly people as a priority group.

Opening an international conference in London, Mr Fowler said that adequate and effective provision for the elderly was a priority for the Government. One of his main challenges was to ensure that the growing proportion of elderly people were able to live as independently as they wished for as long as possible, supported by their families, friends and neighbours, and by health and social services and voluntary agencies.

But he urged delegates to the conference, organized by *Nursing Mirror* and the Royal College of Nursing society of geriatric nursing on the theme "Focus on the elderly", to heed economic arguments in their discussions. Advances in welfare services in Britain had depended on economic growth.

He said he did not believe that proposals based primarily on unrealistic expenditure would provide solutions to the challenges ahead. "None of us can provide more than our countries can afford."

Elderly people needed adequate income, appropriate housing, effective health services and support from social services and other agencies. The Government had raised retirement pensions faster than prices, and the recent drop in inflation had particularly helped pensioners who had savings. Good housing would relieve unnecessary pressure on health and social services, where lack of it could result in "social" admissions and the blocking of beds.

"The provision of effective health care to elderly people is essential especially to the growing proportion of the very elderly," Mr Fowler said.

"We are committed to a strong national health service and we have identified elderly people as one of the priority groups for whom services must be developed most intensively."

European ministers meeting in Copenhagen today are urged to help elderly people to stay in their own homes longer through a variety of services. A report prepared by social workers whose work has been funded by the EEC and published by the British Association of Social Workers, says the long-term effects of mass unemployment cannot be ignored.

SNP abandons firewater in search for 'malt whisky' appeal

From Tom James
Glasgow

At the Scottish National Party's annual conference in 1981, one of its leading ideologues, Mr James Sillars, the former Labour MP, launched a high-profile campaign of activist home-rule politics with a warning that jail doors would soon be clanging behind nationalists as they clashed with the law in acts of civil disobedience.

It was a fiery political brew designed to jolt Scots out of the political apathy that surrounded the home-rule issue.

Like illicit liquor still to be found in the remotest parts of Scotland, it was meant to put fire in the belly and cause a rush of blood to the head.

It worked, but on the distillers of the potion, not on their intended customers. The voters proved to have harder heads than the nationalists.

In the event, it was the SNP alone which became agitated. By last year's annual conference they were in the midst of a damaging public campaign that drove away hundreds of members and disheartened hundreds more of their supporters.

A fundamentalist wing took over from the Sillarsites and a new blend of political firewater was launched with the slogan "Independence. Nothing Less". It proved just as raw and unpalatable to the electorate as civil disobedience.

At the election in June the nationalists ceased to be the recognized third force in Scottish politics. Although their two sitting MPs, Mr Gordon Wilson in Dundee East and Mr Donald Stewart in the Western Isles, were returned to Westminster, the SNP captured less than 12 per cent of



Mr Sillars: Fiery appeal toned down

the vote in Scotland and left a trail of lost deposits.

This week, three months after those disastrous election results, the leadership of the SNP has embarked on the search for a new distinction of party politics that has the smooth consumer appeal of a fine malt whisky. The SNP's agenda for this year's annual conference, published yesterday, discloses clear attempts to reshape the party's thinking along more popular lines in several significant areas of policy.

"If we wish to rejoin the mainstream of Scottish politics and rebuild our popular support, we will have to take the appropriate policy decisions," Mr Wilson bluntly tells his party in the foreword to the agenda.

"The goal I would set the party for the next general election is to win significant political power and to build up to the base where we can get the majority of Scots MPs that would give us a

mandate for independence", he said.

Undoubtedly the main debate at the conference, to be held in the Clyde-side resort of Rothesay from September 29 to October 1, will centre on the one issue with which they are identified: the attainment of a sovereign Scottish parliament.

In recent years the crux of the internal party debate has been whether the SNP should opt for the all-or-nothing approach or tolerate a stepping-stone, gradualist road to independence.

Mr Wilson and several of the party's leading strategists concede that the "Independence. Nothing Less" concept caused them serious electoral damage.

"It gave us a harsh, uncommercial image", he said. "We had a bad attack of the ultras. Extremism of one sort or another plagued us during that period before the election."

In a confidential memorandum to the party executive recently Mr Wilson gave his personal backing to a motion which waters down the purist demands that nothing short of full sovereignty should be accepted by the party.

The motion, tabled by the party strategy committee, reaffirms the SNP's ultimate aim as a sovereign parliament, but calls on the party "not to obstruct" any steps that are taken meantime towards devolution.

Mr Wilson has come a long way from that overheated conference in Ayr last year when he led the move to expel the gradualist left wingers of the party's 79 Group.

His concessionary move is acknowledged and supported by the left wingers who have returned to the party fold.

Telegraph 'inaccurate, not malicious'

An article by James Preston in a Personal View column in the *Daily Telegraph* saying that The League Against Cruel Sports was party to an ecological and social disaster among red deer on Exmoor was marred by inaccuracies and by exaggerated language and conclusions, the Press Council ruled today. But it was not written and published maliciously.

Mr Preston had written that the League's purchase of 32 small farms and woods to provide deer sanctuaries had created small and isolated sanctuaries ideal for poachers because the league had only two wardens to police an area almost the size of Greater London.

He wrote that one of the sanctuaries had become a day-and-night shooting gallery.

Mr Richard Course, the league's director, wrote to the editor of the *Daily Telegraph*, Mr William Deedes, request a

further article to correct inaccuracies and damaging statements. He asked how the league could be involved in an ecological and social disaster when it owned less than 0.5 per cent of Exmoor.

There was no evidence of poaching on its property. It was the only organization to try hard to protect deer. It offered a £5,000 reward for information about poachers.

Mr Course told the complaints committee that the 60-acre wood discovered as a shooting gallery consisted of conifers, with no feed for deer. There were no deer in or around the wood.

Asked why the league did not submit an article after the editor offered to give another viewpoint serious consideration, Mr Course said Mr Deedes could have published the league's letter. A submitted article would not have been used, he said.

The Press Council's adjudication was:

"The article was a vigorous, personal and highly polemical view of the effect of the league's activities on Exmoor. The Press Council does not believe it was written and published maliciously but it was marred by inaccuracies and exaggerated language and conclusions. To this extent the complaint against the *Daily Telegraph* is upheld."

No convincing evidence has been produced that there has been an ecological disaster on a huge scale among red deer or that the league has been party to it, as the article asserts; that one of the league's sanctuaries has become a day and night shooting gallery; or that the incidence of poaching has been increased by the existence of the sanctuaries.

However, in the council's opinion the league should have taken up and tested the editor's offer to give sympathetic consideration to publishing another point of view and the complaint that he failed to remedy the article's defects is, therefore not upheld."



Pilot challenges her own record

High-flying executive: Mrs Brooke Knapp (above), President of Los Angeles-based Jet Airways, is determined to break her own world speed record for light jets set in February.

Mrs Knapp, aged 37, yesterday announced her intention of flying around the world, via both poles, in a Gulfstream III in November. She hopes to beat her time of 50 hours, 22 minutes and 42 seconds. Five years ago she was afraid of flying. (Photograph: David Cairns)

Questionnaire on video censorship

Two million questionnaires will be distributed to 8,000 video retailers this week in a campaign to test public reaction to censorship of home video films.

The Video Trade Association hopes that the results of its survey will provide a "political dipstick" for Mr Graham Bright, the Conservative MP for Luton, South, who will introduce a private members Bill controlling videos.

The questionnaire asks people if they think that home videos should be subjected to more, less, or the same degree of censorship as cinema films.

Whitehall brief Keeping a clean sea

By Peter Hennessy

Oil slicks drifting towards the British coastline are political dynamite. Fishermen, hoteliers, conservationists and MPs representing the threatened littoral tend to explode.

Whitehall's first line of defence is to put on alert the Department of Transport's Marine Pollution Control Unit headed by Rear-Admiral Michael Stacey. Dr Douglas Cormack, his chief scientific adviser, has just published a book about the unit's capability and the range of difficulties it could confront.

Responses to *Oil and Chemical Marine Pollution* is, in its way, a remarkable piece of open government. It is candid about the state of the art, what can and cannot be done once disaster has occurred. In 1978 when the *Elani V* spilled thick furnace fuel oil in the North Sea the frailty of Britain's contingency planning, 11 years after the Torrey Canyon disaster had first pushed the issue to the forefront of the public mind, was exposed for all to see, though no other nation was better placed.

Dr Cormack, then a member of the Department of Industry's Warren Spring Laboratory, was reduced to desperation measures like putting a corporation lorry with a suction tube of the kind used to empty drains on the back of the laboratory's vessel, *Sea-sprite*.

Matters have improved considerably since then. Admiral Stacey's unit was formed in 1979 to take a firmer grip and to avoid cross-departmental and Whitehall/local authority disputes about what to do next. Research and development was set in train under Dr Cormack's supervision.

Defences now include better dispersants stockpiled at 19 bases (Southend, Exeter, Freston and Kinloss and 15 subsidiary airfields). The Department of Transport has eight reconnaissance-craft carrying aircraft on contract from Harwest Air.

Also designated for the battle to keep oil off British beaches is seaborne equipment known as the spring-green system of hoses and sea-skimming pumps. There is also a stockpile of kit for transferring cargo from stricken vessels.

Siege inquest opened

An inquest opened yesterday on a father who was found dead with a gun beside him after a four-hour siege that began when he was shot and critically wounded his daughter, aged 15.

The Surrey coroner, Lieutenant-Colonel George McEwan, said that a post mortem examination established the Mr Ron Frost died

Soon Dr Cormack's aircraft will carry radar and infra-red enabling quick assessment of thickness and spread. Next year computer facilities will be available which, on receipt of basic reconnaissance data, can advise swiftly on countermeasures.

Dr Cormack is not complacent about oil despite the advances. Oil does not kill people, however. Chemicals can. They are his main concern. On chemicals, he says, coastal nations are where they were on oil in pre-Torrey Canyon days.

Nobody really knows how chemicals would behave if spilled at sea in large quantities. In some cases every effort would have to be made to get them coming ashore. The new computer facility would

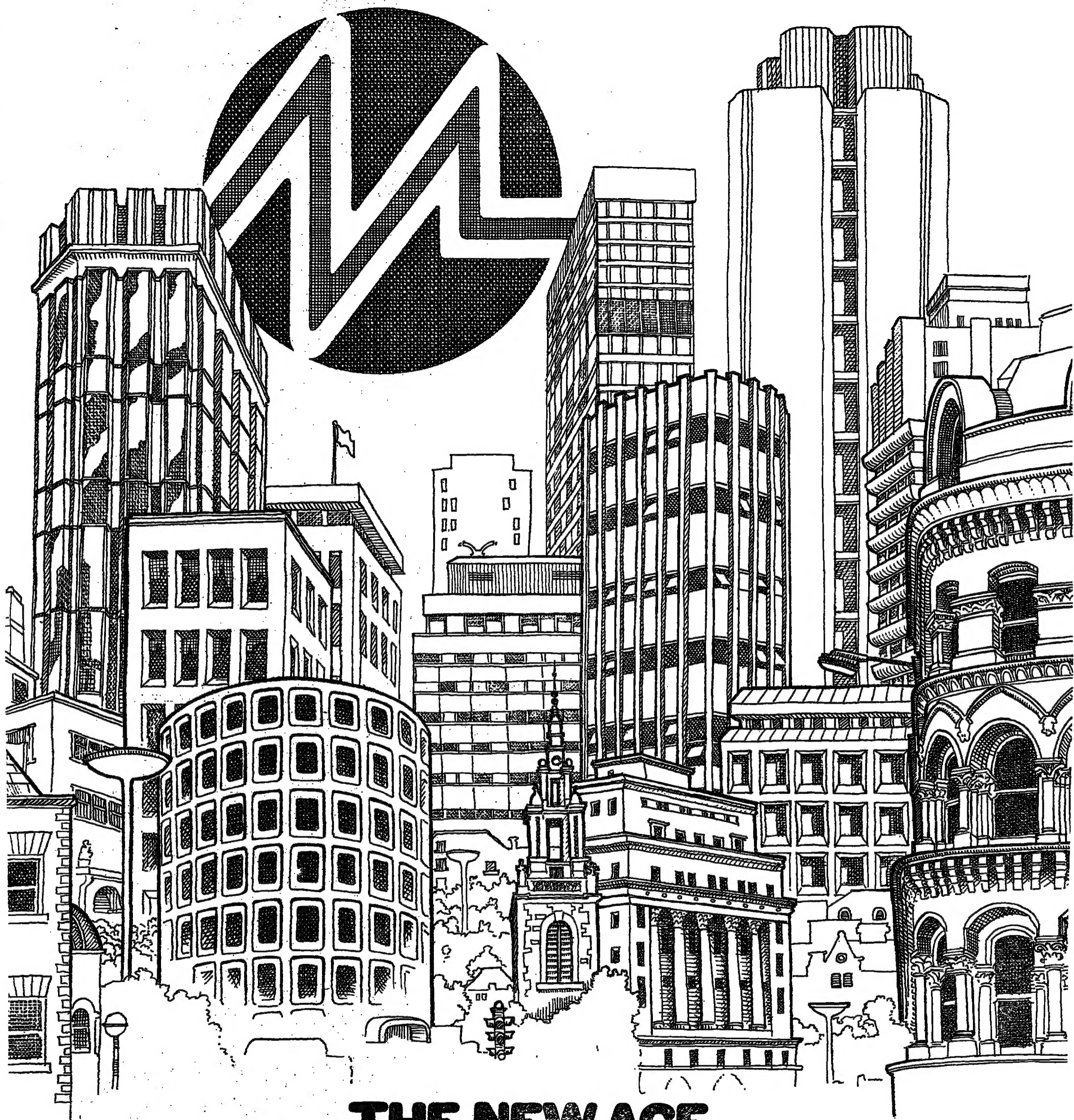
be vital here in advising, for example, when shoreline populations need to be evacuated. Dr Cormack has a peep of sea 30 miles off Lowestoft where what he calls a variety of "floaters, sinkers, dispersers and volatiles" are tested in water in the hope that ways of dealing with them can be found and the knowledge stored in that computer.

But Dr Cormack, a calm, dry Scot, is not a member of the doomwatch brigade. He does not wish to terrorize coastal populations with disaster talk. "After all," he says, "chemicals are just a fact of life. They go down the main street in road traffic." Try putting that in a ministerial statement as the gas cloud moves up the English channel.

Response to *Oil and Chemical Marine Pollution* (Douglas Cormack, Applied Science Publishers, £45).

from a gunshot wound to the head at his home in Priors Croft, Old Woking, Surrey.

Det Chief Inspector Brian Richardson said he was satisfied that nobody else had been directly concerned with Mr Frost's death. The inquest at Chertsey was adjourned until police inquiries have been completed.



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War in the chof

Beirut's ornament aids its torment

From Robert Fisk
Khalde, Lebanon

The two Phalangists were frightened. "Get out. Get out of here," they kept shouting, one of them waving his rifle at us. "We order you out."

The mountainside above the Damascus highway, the very air, seemed to roar and echo with gunfire, and from the hills to the south there rose a thick curtain of blue smoke where the fires had taken hold in the forests.

The younger Phalangist still stood in the road shouting, as if our presence was more dangerous than the shells that hissed overhead. "I order you out," he screamed again and pointed his rifle at our car.

There are orders not to be refused in the foothills of the Chof. The Phalangists, nervous and uncertain, are in danger of losing their hold on the only two sections of the Beirut-Damascus road that are still in their hands. Indeed, their rear gun positions are now firing at the Druze from just 300 yards away from the Lebanese Ministry of Defence.

On the mountain ridges to the east, a line of explosions - presumably rocket fire - ripples along the skyline and a thick plume of white smoke rises majestically from one of the valleys. The vibrations were so strong that there were times it seemed the gunfire came from beneath our feet.

If the Phalangists appeared to be losing, they at least did not present quite the image of impotence that we came across in the confines of the Defence Ministry. When we walked in there yesterday morning, we found the windows blown out, wrecked vehicles and the barracks square and soldiers sleeping rough on the glass covered floors.

We knocked on the door of an officer we knew. He was all smiles but knew nothing, not even the identity of the men who were firing the guns that regularly obliterated his words. His colleague was more forthright. "They are probably Phalangists," he said. "But this place is dangerous. Soon the Druze will fire back. You should leave - and don't walk to your car, run."

The mountains that form a semi-circle around Beirut were once part of its adornment, a "crown of beauty above the brass, modern city. Now they constitute part of its torment, a gun



Armed convoy: A Lebanese Army Jeep with a 105mm recoilless gun leading two armoured personnel carriers into Khalde

platform for the enemies of President Gemayel.

No sooner had we returned to the capital and travelled southwards along the coast road than we found ourselves under shell-fire again, once more from the mountains to the east. "Don't stop," a Lebanese shouted from his vantage point at the checkpoint at Ouzai. "Keep driving."

We sought refuge for half an hour in an apartment block that was being repaired after last year's bombardment by the Israelis. The concierge was a small plump man with a moustache and a young and very pretty wife who watched us indifferently from the doorway when we ran inside.

"It's been like this for two days," he said. "Shells here, shells there." He pointed to the road we had left which had just

been bracketed by six mortar rounds. "Want to go on the roof?" the man asked.

We stood on the half-completed balcony at the back, watching the battle for Khalde down the coast where the Lebanese Army were trying to hold their ground under intense Druze rocket fire. Again there was that strange hollow booming sound that appeared to come from somewhere beneath us. The hills to the east were streaming smoke, within which it was possible to make out those small, tell-tale bubbles of flame as Phalangist and Lebanese army shells exploded around the Druze villages.

Off the coast, we could see the US Sixth Fleet steaming along the horizon, a destroyer and a missile cruiser closer to the shore, their guns pointing re-

proachfully towards the mountains.

Always, there were frightened people. On the road to Khalde, a storekeeper still kept his blinds up, selling beer and English cigarettes to the Lebanese troops squatting outside. But he did so to bolster his own self-confidence. "What will happen?" he asked us. "Are the Syrians coming back?"

We took a side road towards the airport and what is fast becoming Beirut's new front line. It was deserted, the terminal half-obscured by smoke that drifted across the quarters of the American Marine contingent of the multinational force.

We paid the briefest of visits to the Marine guard, enough to give anyone the flavour of their morale. "Get out of here, get out," a young officer shouted,

"It's dangerous. We're on 'Condition One'."

There was a tremendous explosion to the south and a cloud of brown smoke and dust shot into the air. Could we not just take protection with the Marines for a few minutes, we asked? "No you can't get out, get out," the Marine shouted. His face was tired, shocked.

In the city centre, there had been a few banks open and restaurants too. But by the time we returned, the place had shut down, the traffic disappeared. The power had gone again and the drone of generators fought against the echo of the guns.

Thus Beirut endured the second day of the second Lebanese civil war, powerless as usual to combat its own capacity for self-destruction.

Leading article, page 11

Scoreboard of death removed from Begin's front door

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem

The round-the-clock vigil mounted outside the residence of Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, by demonstrators running a macabre scoreboard of the latest Jewish death toll in Lebanon has been abandoned, four months and 41 deaths after it was begun.

The ending of the protest - which some Israelis think contributed to Mr Begin's despondency over the Lebanon war - came not in response to his decision to resign, but as a result of Sunday's deplatforming.

The disappearance of the

scoreboard, which had become something of a Jerusalem landmark, was seen as symbolic of the change in Israeli tactics in occupied Lebanon, which has been underscored by the withdrawal to the Awali line.

Mr Uzi Schwarzman, one of two reserve soldiers who organized the vigil, manned on a rota basis by a thousand volunteers, explained yesterday: "We are not satisfied by the employment, but since we expect the new status quo to last for several years we are changing tactics and planning monthly demonstrations."

His admission that even

Israel's most active doves are not prepared to sleep indefinitely on the cold paving stones in Balfour Street has highlighted expectations that Israeli forces will remain in occupation of southern Lebanon for an indefinite period.

There have already been signs that the Army plans to organize behind the now consolidated line, with a gradual reduction in Israeli manpower and an increasing reliance on the local militia of Major Saad Haddad, now being boosted in size.

The expanded role envisaged for the major - who is believed by intelligence sources to be suffering from a mystery illness which requires regular periods in hospi-

tal - is symbolized just north of Sidon. There, one of his steel-grey, Second World War surplus Sherman tanks now sits at the Israeli checkpoint guarding the new front-line.

More Haddad men are to be found under a sackcloth awning in the dusty centre of Sidon. According to Israeli sources, the aim is that Israeli control will be similar to that exercised over the buffer zone known as "Haddad's land" between 1978 and 1982. Southern Lebanon would be policed and controlled by Major Haddad's forces, boosted by an Israeli headquarters and an advisory and logistics team.

The setting-up of an extended security zone in cooperation with the malleable militia commander would represent a victory for military intelligence over the now abandoned policy advocated by Mossad, the Israeli secret service.

Mr Chaim Hecht, an Israeli journalist who has studied the unprecedented clash between the two intelligence branches, said military intelligence "regarded the Mossad position - which saw a pro-Western Lebanon under the leadership of the late Bashir (Gemayel) and a peace treaty with Israel fantasies, illusions, nonsense".

Hot days in Honduras
Where US troops bark orders in Spanish

San Lorenzo, Honduras (AP) - In stifling heat near the Nicaraguan border, American troops are pouring into an army camp here and converting it into a small city as a base for military exercises which could last six months.

Up in the hills US Green Beret troops bark orders in fluent Spanish as they run young Honduran infantrymen through fighting drills.

To shouts of "¡márete, márete" - "move it, move it" - Honduran troops charge through the brush and scrub pine of steep hills. At 10,000 ft the temperature hits 100°F with humidity in the 80-90 per cent range. Uniforms of instructors and trainees are drenched in sweat.

The manoeuvres concentrate on land and sea "interdiction" which generally means cutting off whatever insurgent forces might try to land or operate in Honduras.

From the camp at this Gulf of Fonseca town, some 70 miles south of the Honduran capital, Tegucigalpa, the mountains of Nicaragua are visible to the left and of El Salvador to the right. The 50-mile stretch of Honduras in the middle is regarded as a land route which Nicaragua allegedly uses to smuggle supplies to Salvadoran guerrillas.

Honduras says it has captured suspected gun-runners in the area.

Residents of Tiger Island in the Gulf of Fonseca say more Americans are expected this

month to work with Honduran coastal patrols. The Pacific Ocean is shared by Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua.

Officers at the San Lorenzo base say as many as 1,800 Americans will be here in the next couple of weeks, many of them engineers to build a runway. There are also communications specialists, cooks, medics, administrative staff and the 100 special forces trainers who do not talk much and do not like to be photographed.

About 5,000 Americans and 6,000 Honduran troops will be taking part in the exercises at sites throughout Honduras. As they arrive, engineers and others are planning a series of "more permanent facilities".

There are plans for a troop newspaper for the operation, a camp radio station and videotaped American television programmes to be flown in. Honduras is concerned about what it sees as a threat from the leftist government in Nicaragua. The American presence here will leave this strategic region much better prepared for a real military operation.

A special forces major said heat had been the biggest problem.

"We aren't as good as (the Hondurans) at going up and down hills in this climate but we are learning a few things from them about it."

Reagan envoy leaves Mexico empty-handed

Mr Richard Stone, President Reagan's special envoy to Central America, left Mexico City for Washington yesterday, ending his third apparently fruitless mission to try to set up regional peace talks.

He will be briefing the President and Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, on his meeting with leftist rebels in El Salvador during which he failed to persuade them to participate in elections, provisionally scheduled for early next year. Mr Stone had breakfast yesterday with Señor Bernardo Sepúlveda, the Mexican Foreign Minister. Later he met President Miguel de la Madrid at the National Palace before heading for the airport.

The atmosphere was apparently cordial, although President de la

Madrid made it clear he believed the peace efforts he is conducting with Colombia, Venezuela and Panama (the Contadora nations), are being undermined by American activities in the region.

However, he seems to be moderating substantially his previous public criticism of the United States role and refrained from an expected attack during his State of the Nation address to Congress last Thursday. There is a feeling among American diplomats that the Contadora peace progress is bogged down and that President de la Madrid may now be hostile to some form of American role although he remains strongly opposed to the show of United States military might in the region.

Secrecy at Cape Town spy trial

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg

Even the application for the trial of a South African Navy Commodore and his wife, who are accused of spying for the Soviet Union, to be held in camera was held behind closed doors in the Cape Town Supreme Court yesterday.

Commodore Dieter Gerhardt, aged 47, and his Swiss wife Ruth, aged 41, pleaded not guilty to charges of high treason - which carry the death penalty - but Mr Justice G. G. A. Munick, president of the Cape, ruled that no further details should be disclosed.

Mr D. J. Rossouw, Attorney-General of the Cape, told the judge that the Gerhardts had carried out acts of espionage against South Africa over a period of years.

He said: "This is one of the occasions where the rule of open proceedings should be suspended for reasons of state security."

The arrest of the Gerhardts was announced by Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, in Parliament in February. As commander of the naval dockyard at Simonstown, Commodore Gerhardt is believed to have been privy to highly secret



Accused couple: Commodore Dieter Gerhardt and his wife, Ruth, leaving the Supreme Court in Cape Town

information which South Africa shares with Nato about Soviet shipping movements around the Cape.

● EAST LONDON: The Government of the nominally-independent tribal homeland of the Ciskei has banned a black trade union, the South African Allied Workers Union (Sawu), reports.

● BLOEMFONTEIN: Ten people convicted with Mr Oscar Mphahlele, a trade unionist and community leader, on charges under the Terrorism Act and for murder were refused leave to appeal against their sentences by the Appeal Court here (AFP reports).

Italians seek out-of-doors refuge from tremors

From John Earle
Rome

Most of the 70,000 inhabitants of Pozzuoli, a coastal town 10 miles west of Naples, are spending their nights in the open because of a series of tremors which have increased in intensity in recent weeks.

The 130 inmates of the women's jail, including some well-known figures from the

Comorra or Mafia underworld, were evacuated yesterday to the main Naples prison.

The authorities have made available 400 tents and 20 buses to provide temporary shelter to those too alarmed to return home, while discussions went on all day at the Naples prefecture about the possibility of taking more permanent measures of protection. About 50 people were treated at

the hospital at the weekend for minor injuries from falling masonry and for shock.

Since July last year, the ground level in the town has risen by 30 inches. The ferry service with the island of Ischia, the Prodi's, have to be switched to another port along the coast, as vessels are having difficulty in berthing at the quayside. Shopkeepers are complaining that business is virtually

at standstill, while interruptions in the electricity supply and the telephone are becoming commonplace.

Pozzuoli is the birthplace of the actress Sophia Loren. It is situated on the outskirts, the Solfatara, a dormant volcano which normally produces nothing more violent than bubbling mud patches and fumes of sulphurous gases.

Feeling shortchanged by the roo dollar

From Tony Dubondia, Melbourne

The dispute over Australia's new dollar coin, the so-called "Roo Dollar", has grown, with unions at the Reserve Bank noting printing works in Melbourne

deciding to ban production of the country's new \$100 note unless the Federal Government agrees to reverse its decision to let a South Korean company supply blanks for the coins. The dollar coin is to be introduced next year at the same time as the \$100 note but

the ban by members of the amalgamated metal foundry and shipwrights Union, has thrown the schedule into confusion.

Mr John Halfpenny secretary of the union describes the Government's decision to award the contract for supplying 1,400 tonnes of blanks for the new coins to South Korea as a national disgrace and a betrayal of national interest.

Pope strongly defends teachings on sex

From Our Correspondent, Rome

The Pope, receiving a group of American bishops at his summer residence of Castelgandolfo yesterday, vigorously reaffirmed the traditional Roman Catholic teachings against divorce, premarital sex, homosexuality, abortion and contraception.

The compassionate bishop, he said, was called on to oppose any discrimination against women by reason of sex. But the Church's

opposition to the ordination of women was "extraneous to the issue of discrimination and... is linked rather to Christ's original design for his priesthood". Bishops must withdraw all support from individuals or groups who promoted the ordination of women.

They should also proclaim the indissolubility of marriage, and "the inconvertibility of heterosexual sex and homosexual activity with God's plan for human love."

The Korean jet disaster

Uniformed Russians fear war - but rally round the flag

From Richard Owen, Moscow

"Will there be war with America?" the pregnant lady in a summer print dress asked, her eyes widening in apprehension.

We were standing by a giant mock-up of a Tupolev 144 outside space and air transport pavilions at Moscow's Exhibition Park. I had just told her that 269 people died in the jumbo jet tragedy last Thursday, and that President Reagan was "now announcing retaliatory measures."

"I'm sure we had good reasons," the lady said. "After all, it looked like a spy plane, didn't it, and we have lots of bases in the east."

A toddler played by the Tupolev's wheels, enjoying Moscow's Indian summer. "But they haven't told us much about it. What will Reagan do to us now?"

Mr Reagan is presented to the Soviet public as a slightly deranged warmonger, and Russians are nervous now that they know their armed forces may have overreacted to the jumbo jet. The Soviet public has only been told piecemeal fashion about the incident, and has still not been told how many were on board the doomed aircraft.

Only alert readers spotted the significance of last Thursday's tiny Tass item on the "disappearance" of an unidentified aircraft off Sakhalin. On Friday and Saturday, when Tass attacked President Reagan and Pravda published a map showing the route the aircraft had taken, it still did not dawn on many Russians

that MIGs had intercepted and apparently fired at an unarmed civilian airliner. They were baffled by growing official talk of "sneers" and "provocations".

Only on Sunday did items on the affair figure prominently enough in the press and on television for readers and viewers to realize that a big crisis had erupted and that Russia was being criticised for something.

Readers of Colonel-General Semyon Rozanov's article in

Pravda yesterday finally grasped that the jumbo jet was civilian and that loss of life had been heavy.

The Soviet media do not report disasters or security matters, let alone both. The Kremlin uses the press as its mouthpiece, and has unfolded its version of events gradually with gaps and oblique hints along the way.

The authorities' view is that the public have no right to know about things which do not concern them. Russians were not told about the outcry over the invasions of Czechoslovakia or Afghanistan, and have still not been told about world anger over the downing of the Korean jumbo jet.

As news none the less trickles in - via Western radio broadcasts, the rumour network and hints in Pravda - the most common reaction is one of shock and fear coupled with an assumption that the official justification must be well founded.

Russians strolling in the park said they did not want war, and brushed aside suggestions that Russia might itself have committed a warlike act.

President Reagan's assertion that the Soviet Union could not be trusted or counted among the civilized nations struck a raw nerve in a society which is permeated by national insecurity and mistrust of foreigners but measures itself against Western standards.

Russians - both officials and private citizens - are often hurt by suggestions that Soviet society is in some respects backward, or that human life is not highly valued, or that its armed forces put security before humanity.

"Don't worry young man," said a black-clad babushka sweeping the path. "They will explain everything. It is better not to know. The main thing is to have peace in the world for our children and grandchildren."

Japanese find debris at sea
UK rejects Moscow's explanation

Wakkanai, Japan (AFP) - Two

US Navy vessels and four South Korean fishing boats yesterday joined 14 Japanese patrol boats and US military aircraft in an extensive air-sea search for bodies or debris from the South Korean airliner shot down by the Russians.

The Japanese patrol boat Sorachi had recovered two objects which the officials believed were from the airliner. The objects resembled burnt thermal insulation.

The officials also said that at the time, seven Soviet patrol boats were spotted operating in waters off Moneron Island.

● SEOUL: South Korea yesterday denied an allegation that a South Korean jumbo jet was on a spying mission when it was shot down by Soviet fighters (Reuters reports).

By Henry Stanhope

Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain yesterday rejected the Soviet Union's attempt to blame the presence of an American "spy plane" for the attack on the airliner.

Soviet fighters had tracked the airliner for two-and-a-half hours which was plenty of time to make proper identification, the Foreign Office said. But even if they had not it could not diminish the Soviet Union's responsibility for shooting down a civilian airliner.

Britain was meanwhile in touch with the United States and other allies to coordinate possible sanctions against the Soviet Union, but there was no indication what, if any, the sanctions might be.

Canada awaits results of jail torture inquiry

From John Best, Ottawa

An investigation is being held to determine whether prisoners were mistreated by guards after the riot last year at Archambault penitentiary in Quebec, which claimed five lives.

The inquiry was launched earlier in the summer by the Canadian Commission of Inquiry, Mr Ron Stewart, at the request of the Solicitor-General, Mr Robert Kaplan. Mr Stewart said last week that it will be "a while yet" before it is completed.

In agreeing to the inquiry Mr Kaplan was acceding to a request by Amnesty International which had sent its own fact-finding mission to the prison, north of Montreal to investigate alleged mistreatment.

Although its report has not been made public, Amnesty said its two-member mission gathered enough evidence to conclude that Canada was obliged under its international human rights commitments to hold a full and impartial investigation.

Two other international human rights organizations have published reports alleging that prisoners were tortured and

abused after the disturbance in which three guards were tortured and killed and two prisoners committed suicide by swallowing cyanide.

The Paris-based International Federation of Human Rights alleged that prisoners received severe beatings, were suspended from poles, had their testicles squeezed and their heads shoved down lavatories.

The International Human Rights Law Group, based in Washington, reported that in the weeks after the riot, guards sprayed inmates with tear gas and urinated on their sandwiches.

Mr Stewart withheld detailed comment on his investigation, other than to say he had spent the last two months at Archambault interviewing prisoners, their families, visitors and prison staff. When his report is finished he will present it to Mr Kaplan who has promised to make it public.

Mr Stewart is independent of the Solicitor-General's department, which has jurisdiction over Canada's prison and correction system.

Habré claims to have regained rebel-held land

N'Djamena (AP) - President

Habré's Government claimed yesterday that its forces had regained control of a large part of the desert south of the strategic Chad stronghold of Faya-Largeau.

Mr Soumaila Mahamat, the Information Minister, said government troops had followed up their victory over Libyan-led rebels near the outpost of Oum Chalouba, 200 miles south-east of Faya-Largeau, by striking deep into rebel-held territory.

He said that the Government had recovered control over a radius of more than 60 miles north and west of Oum Chalouba. This would place them nearly half-way from Oum Chalouba to Faya-Largeau.

The minister ridiculed rebel claims to hold the isolated outpost and offered to fly reporters there to see for themselves. He described as pure invention a rebel claim to have repulsed government attacks on Oum Chalouba.

Sri Lanka eases curfew and press gag

Colombo - Press censorship in Sri Lanka has been relaxed, and from today the curfew will be in force for only three hours, from 1 am to 4 am.

Editors and foreign correspondents have been told to exercise self-censorship; the Government is anxious that newspapers should not publish any reports that would cause "disaffection, sedition or incitement" or damage Sri Lanka's image abroad.

The ban on the Sinhalese newspaper, *The Dinakara*, an organ of the opposition Freedom Party, has been lifted.

Malta demand turned down

Madrid - Thirty-four nations attending the European Security Review Conference refused a Maltese demand for a special session to examine Malta's requirements for greater attention security problems (Richard Witts writes).

Delegates at ambassadorial level were still seeking to break the deadlock last night.

Death demanded for 61 Turks

Istanbul (Reuters) - A military prosecutor demanded sentences for 61 of 254 people accused of belonging to the Dev-rol (Revolutionary Way) organization when their trial opened here.

They are charged with 38 murders, attempting to change the constitutional order, attempted murder, armed attacks and robberies.

Plane found

The wreckage of a Transamerica Hercules aircraft missing since August 28 was found between Dundo and Lucapa in north-eastern Angola. The cause of the crash and the fate of the four Americans and three Angolans on board are unknown.

Protest swim

Thessaloniki (AFP) - Three young Turks swam the River Euro between Greece and Turkey and asked for political asylum. They said they were opposed to the military regime.

Brunei talks

Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, expects to conclude long-running defence talks with the Sultan of Brunei when he visits the Far East later this month. He will also call at Singapore and Hongkong.

Firing squad

Hongkong - Newspapers carried front-page pictures of the execution by firing-squad of a young Hongkong man and three Chinese for robbing a "friendship store" across the Chinese border in Shumchun special economic zone.

Lethal weather

Vienna (Reuters) - Seven Austrians died in mountain accidents at the weekend as the weather suddenly changed to snow, fog and rain. Four tourists froze to death in Steiermark and three others slipped on a path in Upper Austria.

Envoy mugged

A Pakistani diplomat, Mr Qutubuddin Aziz, was robbed of £38 at Heathrow airport, London, when he went to see a relative off. The embassy blamed the incident on "non-British miscreants". Last night the Foreign Office expressed regret.

Rig second try

Stavanger (AP) - Experts have begun a second attempt to right the oil rig Alexander L. Kjelstad, which capsized in March, 1980, to recover dozens of oilworkers' bodies which may be trapped inside. The contractors expect the operation to be completed by next week.

Fatal blaze

Lagos (AFP) - Six people were burnt to death and eight others seriously injured when their vehicle was set on fire in the Niger state of Nigeria, apparently for political reasons. Some of the victims were officials of the Federal Electoral Commission.

Exile returns

Santiago (Reuters) - Señor Renán Barrios, a prominent Christian Democrat politician, has returned to Chile from exile, the third since President Pinochet lifted a ban on several hundred exiles.

Unkind cut

Brussels (AP) - The Defence Ministry has told female members of the armed forces to wear civilian clothes when they are more than three months pregnant, because budget cuts have left no room to design military maternity wear.

College blast

Göttingen (Reuters) - A bomb wrecked a building at Göttingen University, West Germany, but caused no injuries. The so-called Extra-Parliamentary Opposition claimed responsibility.

Shuttle's bright night landing



Good morning, America: The Challenger crew (from left) Dr Thornton, Lieutenant-Commander Gardner, Lieutenant-Colonel Bluff, Commander Brandenstein and Captain Truly.

Edwards Air Force Base, California (AP)—Challenger and its crew dropped out of the darkness and settled safely on a brilliantly lit desert runway before dawn yesterday ending six flawless days in orbit with the first night landing in the American astronaut programme.

The 100-ton space shuttle appeared suddenly out of a star-filled sky just 30 to 90ft above the runway, the blazing ground lights gleaming off the fuselage.

The crew, commanded by Captain Richard Truly, included America's first black astronaut, Lieutenant-Colonel Guion Bluff, the oldest person to fly in space, Dr William Thornton, aged 54, the pilot, Commander Dale Brandenstein, and the mission specialist, Lieutenant-Commander Dale Gardner.

Captain Truly set Challenger down in the centre of a dazzling array of lights which turned the landing strip into artificial day.

The landing came as the shuttle was on its ninety-eighth orbit, six days after being launched for the first time at night from Cape Canaveral, Florida.

DELEH: Controllers tilted India's new satellite in space yesterday to concentrate the sun's rays on its jammed solar power unit while preparing manoeuvres to fire and fully extend the equipment (AP reports).

The satellite was tilted about 18 degrees, enabling it to provide the

minimum power required.

The solar energy unit designed to run the satellite during its seven-year-life failed to open fully as expected on Sunday because of a mechanical problem.

The Indian satellite, known as Insat 1B, was launched from the shuttle last Wednesday and moved into a 10-day transitional orbit about 22,300 miles above the Equator. Control was taken over by the Hassan Station in India.

Exiled 7 held on return to Pakistan

Islamabad (Reuters) — Armed police arrested seven members of the banned Pakistan People's Party yesterday when they returned to Pakistan to lead a campaign for democracy in their native Punjab province, airport sources said.

Police at the airport checked passengers leaving the Boeing 747 flight from London and escorted the seven away to waiting vans. There was no trouble, the sources told reporters at the airport.

The group, the first of what party officials in London have said are up to 300 Punjabis ready to return, ended self-exile in Britain and West Germany to join protests led by the opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy.

Agitation against the military Government of President Zia ul-Haq has been strongest in the southern province of Sind, where at least 29 people have been killed.

The seven who left London on Sunday were the former Health Minister Mr Moos Ahmad Mahi, Mr Muhammad Hanif and Mr Main Pervaz, the Gujranwala district party president Mr Muhammad Ashraf, and two party members exiled in West Germany, Mr Aslam Ghuman and Mr Muhammad Sajjad Akhtar.

Passengers said that 15 to 18 policemen carrying rifles were waiting for the Pakistan International Airlines flight. They led the seven away in two groups. Police cleared the airport observation deck long before the aircraft landed.

Luanda's grim fairy tale

Misery despite potential

In the second of three articles RICHARD DOWDEN, recently in Angola, explains why the economy is foundering in one of Africa's most well-endowed countries.

The economy of Angola is like a moral fairy tale in which a pauper inherits a fortune but can never enjoy it. Angola is potentially one of the richest countries in Africa. It has oil, diamonds and other minerals. Parts of it are well watered and fertile and it has rich fishing waters.

But after eight years of independence it has a post-apocalypse air rather than the spirit of a rich nation liberated from the bonds of colonialism. Luanda is by any standards a torpid and squalid slum where sewage leaks into the gutters and hundreds of shacks and offices stand empty. In waste ground lie broken things, many abandoned vehicles left to rot, perhaps for want of a simple spare part. Chickens and goats browse in the backyards of high-rise blocks. To speak of shortages implies there is a basic supply but the government shops are mostly bare and queues form at a rumour of any commodity being rationed out.

Money is not much use. The official exchange rate is 32 kwanzas to the dollar but some people are prepared to pay up to 20 times that amount. A government company official told me that his workers no longer worked for money but for the occasional access to goods in the company shop. Workers then swapped these with goods

Angola Analysis

available to other workers in other companies.

In the countryside, people who once exported food are now suffering from malnutrition and aid workers estimate that more than 600,000 people have been displaced by the war, many of them drifting to urban areas where they cannot support themselves. Infant mortality is estimated at about 200 per thousand.

There are few basic statistics on which to base an analysis of



Mr do Nascimento: Help for neglected peasants.

where things are going wrong but there seem to be three basic causes.

For the Government the war is the main culprit. Not only does Angola spend more than half its foreign exchange on defence but

the whole economy is locked into the war through the emergency plan published last year. Guerrilla attacks have disrupted food supplies from the central highlands and many skilled technicians and administrators have had to work on defence matters rather than development.

The second factor is the absence of trained people. Half a million Portuguese fled at independence and only five per cent of the remaining population was literate. Even minor decisions drift slowly upwards past clerical staff unqualified for their tasks and still using the baroque Portuguese bureaucracy. The third factor is the inappropriately rigid and centralized socialism which, up till now, has prevented people doing things for themselves when the state structures failed.

A new and pragmatic spirit is emerging in Luanda to cope with the economy. In a recent interview with *The Times*, Mr Lopo do Nascimento, Minister of Planning, made it clear that while building socialism remained the fundamental aim with centralized control rigid in some areas, a new liberal regime was going to be tried in others. "Sometimes one's political position comes up against economic reality," he said, explaining that there was no ideological barrier to capitalist companies working in Angola and no fundamental reason why Angola should not join the World Bank.

Mr do Nascimento admitted that the peasants were neglected after the revolution.

Tomorrow: Angola's future

French poll shows upsurge of racism

From Diana Geddes, Paris

A dramatic increase in votes for the extreme right in Sunday's municipal elections in Dreux, to the west of Paris, has highlighted the wave of racist feelings that appears to be sweeping many parts of the country. Nearly a quarter of Dreux's 35,000 inhabitants are immigrants.

The "Union des Droites pour la France" (Union of Citizens of Dreux for France), led by M Jean-Pierre Stirbois, the secretary-general of the National Front, polled a remarkable 17 per cent of the votes — the Front's best election result since its foundation in 1972. It is also the best result for any extreme right-wing grouping for more than 20 years.

M Stirbois based his campaign on the theme of "reverse the immigration trend". The National Front's previous best score was 12.6 per cent, which M Stirbois obtained in the cantonal elections in 1982. But usually the National Front is lucky if it polls more than 2 or 3 per cent of the vote.

The Government's new measures to clamp down on illegal immigrants, announced four days before the Dreux election, seem to have done little to reassure the town's indigenous population (immigrants do not have the right to vote). Most of the National

Front's gains appear to have been at the expense of the left.

The Socialists and Communists who again joined together to form a common list, obtained only 41 per cent of the vote, compared with just over 50 per cent in the municipal elections last March. Those elections were won by the left by just eight votes, but the results were later annulled, and a new election was called for last Sunday.

No single party list has obtained an overall majority, so there will have to be a second poll next Sunday. In the second round, it is the party which obtains the greatest proportion of votes which will be declared the winner.

Mr Jean Hieur, the RPR (Gaullist) leader of the joint opposition list, has already said that he wants to tilt M Stirbois on to his list in the second round, despite an earlier veto on any National Front-RPR alliances by M Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader.

The government's latest measures to prevent new immigration into France and to root out illegal immigrants already here, have failed to satisfy those who want something done about the existing 4.5 million legal immigrants in France.

Prisoners of conscience



Turkey:

Yalcin Kucuk

By Caroline Moorehead

Dr Yalcin Kucuk, a prominent economist who helped to draft Turkey's first five-year plan in the 1960s, has been on a hunger strike in jail. He is believed to have had a heart attack recently.

Dr Kucuk is serving an eight-year sentence for writing a book on the economic problems of Turkey, considered by the authorities to be subversive and inflammatory.

In 1960 he joined the State Planning Organization, which he had helped to set up after the military coup of that year.

Six years later, by then director of the long-term planning section, he left to lecture at the Middle East Technical University. Later, he moved to Ankara Gazi University.

During the 1970s Dr Kucuk became an active member of the Turkish Socialist Workers' Party, editing, for a period, its monthly publication, *Turayim*. For a while, he was economics editor of *Cumhuriyet* newspaper.

After the military coup of September 1980, Dr Kucuk was dismissed from his post at Ankara Gazi University and, not long afterwards, was arrested.

Since his heart attack this summer Dr Kucuk's condition is said to be critical. He has lost a great deal of weight and has difficulty speaking.



Dr Kucuk: Eight years for writing a book.

Terrorism tactics split Armenians

By Hazrat Telnoukian

A rift has opened within the Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (Asala) one of the most determined international terrorist networks of the past decade.

The rift is over the value or even political desirability of indiscriminate violence to put pressure on Turkey, which two-and-a-half million Armenians dispersed throughout the West see as the unrepentant in Turkish Armenia in 1915.

The bomb at the Turkish Airlines desk at Ody airport, on July 15 which killed eight people, acted as the catalyst for the split which has been brewing for several years.

"Moderates" within the organization were so angry that two of them killed two members of the hardline group in Greece, led by Mr Hagop Hagopian, the former leader of Asala. In retaliation, the agopian faction "arrested" and "executed" two of the moderates.

Mr Hagopian is believed to be in Libya, but he does not stay in one place for long. He is in his late thirties and has fiery energy. The moderates believe that he sends idealistic Armenian youths on suicide missions merely to strengthen his bargaining position with his main financier, Colonel Gaddafi of Libya, or anyone else who has an interest in terrorist missions in Western countries.

A spokesman for the moderate wing of the organization in Europe said that before the Israeli invasion of Lebanon last year, the moderates were able to limit the organization's foreign missions to attacks upon Turkish diplomats, whom they regard as instruments of Turkish policy and therefore legitimate targets. More than 30 diplomats have been killed by the Armenians over the past 10 years.

The spokesman said that the Israeli invasion had dispersed the leadership of Asala over Europe and North Africa, and "enabled the fascist gangsters around Hagopian to do what they liked, to bargain with the Libyans and eventually, to become the prisoners of their Arab backers".

The moderates have now set up an organization of their own, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Armenia, but in the meantime Mr Hagopian has gained much richer backers and acquired training camps in Libya, which could enable him to continue his activities for many years.

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SPECTRUM

Today's computers can take world class chess-play in their stride, yet it is beyond them to set up the pieces to begin the game. In this second of three articles Piers Burnett examines and explains this paradox

Put simply, it's a digital stalemate

Most of us would ridicule the notion that any comparison could be made between the degree of intelligence required to move pieces about the chessboard in order to win a game at tournament level with that needed to pick the same chessmen out when they are jumbled together in a box and arrange them in order. Chess, we all accept, requires great intelligence: the task of sorting out a random collection of pawns, bishops and knights, on the other hand, could safely be entrusted to a child. Yet the fact is that computer intelligence has shown itself capable of chess playing at the very highest level but has proved quite incapable of mastering the skills involved in the second kind of feat. Sorting out a loose pile of chessmen is, in fact, but a variation of the problem of picking one item out of an unorganized pile, the so-called "bin-picking problem", the solution of which glitters like some elusive mirage on the far horizons of industrial robotics.

The ability to play a reasonable game of chess was one of the most popular objectives that the computer pioneers set for their primitive machines, and game playing in general became one of the main preoccupations of the field that was dignified with the title of "artificial intelligence" after John McCarthy of Stanford University coined the phrase in 1958. The attractions of the chess playing kind of intelligence were clear. The game undeniably demands a high level of intelligence, yet the world within which that intelligence has to be applied, the rules of the game and the geography of the board, is restricted and orderly. Chess demands precisely that logical, linear mode of thought which mathematicians were inclined to consider the paradigm one, and at which the digital computer had been designed to excel.

The computer's success in mastering chess playing, along with its many other accomplishments, led to a heady optimism in the 1960s, which assumed that it would only be a matter of time and inevitable technological advance before all aspects of intelligence succumbed to its all-conquering advance.

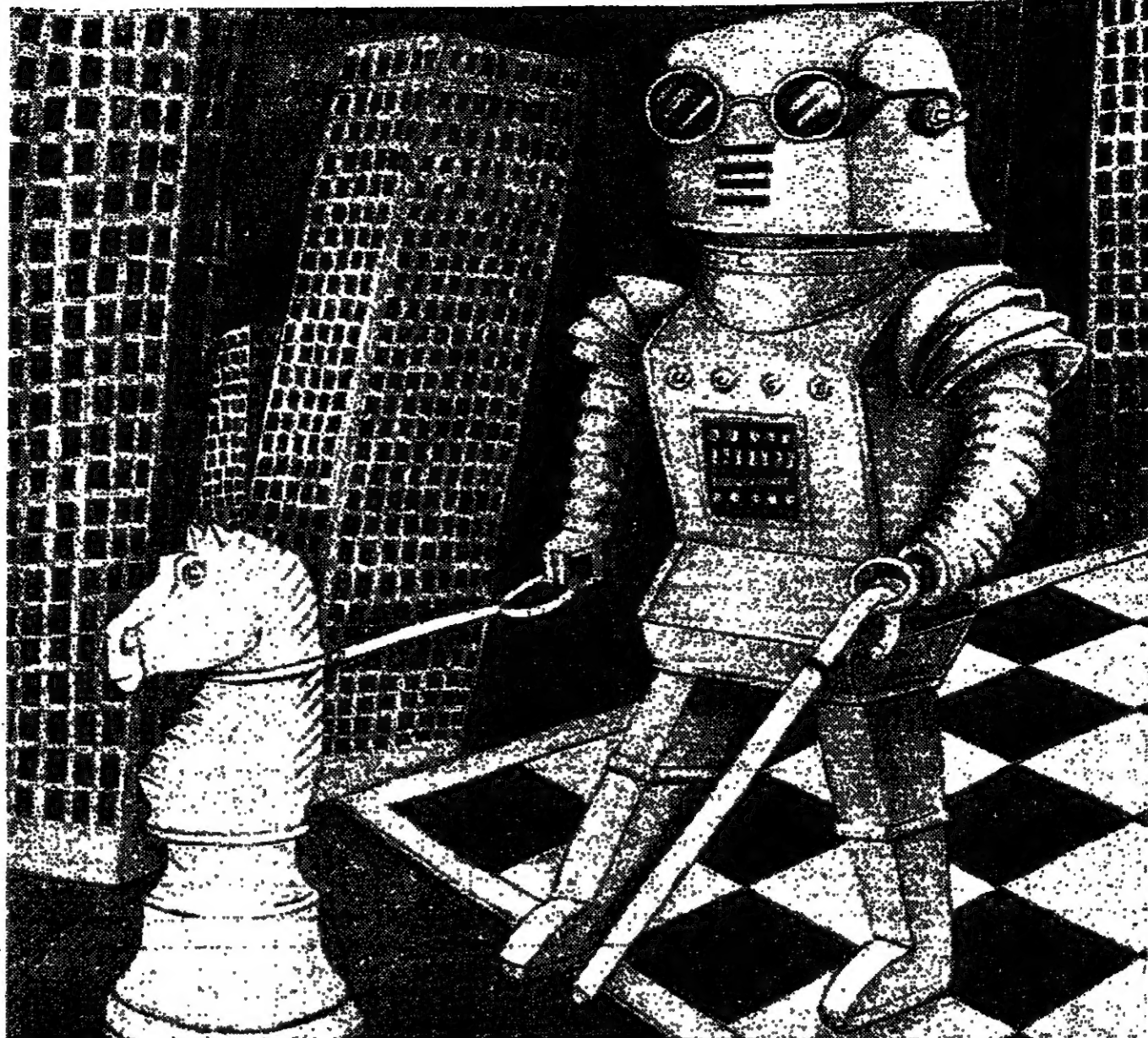
But when artificial intelligence turned its attention to the problems of vision (initially in response to NASA's interest in robot vision for space exploration) and to the solution of "robot task" problems such as the bin picking one, it had to lower its sights from one of the pinnacles of human intelligence to the simplified world of the baby's playpen. It was not until

objects were reduced to the elementary forms of children's building blocks, basic cubes and pyramids, that computers were able to recognize and manipulate them.

The root of the problem lies in the nature of the computer itself. It is a "universal machine", that is it can, in theory, tackle a problem of any kind and its construction does not predispose it to "think" in any particular way. But before it can do anything it must be provided with a program which, in effect, tells it what kind of machine it is required to become in order to deal with the matter in hand. A program is but another name for an algorithm, a set of instructions setting out in detail a definite method of solving a certain kind of problem. The kind of algorithms required by a chess playing computer were worked out at an early stage: essentially they consist of heuristics, or scoring systems, which allow the machine to calculate the consequences of any move in terms of the future moves open to itself and its opponents.

A program or algorithm must, of course, be provided by a human programmer. It is perfectly possible, it is true, to construct a program that it enables the machine to construct further programs for itself; indeed most artificial intelligence work is based on this concept. But though this allows computers to learn to a limited degree, it has not so far provided a basis for learning in a more general sense. A machine that was programmed to understand cricket might, with patience, come to appreciate baseball, but soccer would forever remain an enigma to it. Providing an algorithm for a particular kind of intelligence, even if it aims only to set out the basic principles and leaves the machine free to learn the rest for itself, obviously involves having some firm ideas as to how a human being sets about dealing with the same kinds of problem.

The difficulty with visual perception and the kind of actions we routinely solve by the application of "common sense" is that the algorithms we employ seem to be a good deal more subtle than might at first appear. If asked to explain how we know that a cube is a cube, most of us could dredge up some smattering of schoolroom geometry: we would probably be considerably harder pressed to provide a set of firm rules for distinguishing, say between a Ford Fiesta and a BL Metro, and if asked how we unfailingly recognized a familiar face in a crowd



we would probably deny that we applied any formal set of rules at all. Yet we perform such feats of recognition constantly and without apparent effort. And, to return to the jumble of chessman, we not only distinguish between a bishop and a knight, even if the set is an unfamiliar one, but we also calculate apparently instantaneously which piece should be picked up first and how best to manoeuvre the hand in order to grasp it.

The work of Terry Winograd at MIT in the early 1970s showed that it is feasible to equip computers with programs which enable them to recognize simple objects, and to decide how they should be manipulated in order to achieve a prescribed result. But it has not been possible to build on this in order to produce machines that serve practical purposes in the real world. The kind of program which can distinguish between a cube and a pyramid when both are presented head on cannot, for example, be extended to reliably sort nuts from bolts when they are mixed up. In the 1970s, the failure to break out of the artificial world of simple shapes into the real world of complex ones finally burst the bubble of optimism which expanded in the 1960s. The man who applied the sharpest pin was a British mathematician, Sir James Lighthill.

Lighthill, who had been asked by the Science Research Council to prepare a report on the practical prospects of contemporary artificial intelligence research, identified a problem which he considered insurmountable. In essence, the difficulty lies in the fact that, although the possible combination of positions on a chessboard is virtually infinite, the rules which define them are limited. In contrast, the number of ways in which a set of chessman can fall into place in a heap is also infinite, but there are no clear rules to define them. When objects are

transposed from some artificially orderly world, such as a chessboard, to the "real world", Lighthill suggested, they are subject to a "combinatorial explosion" which resists description by any formal algorithmic method.

The combinatorial explosion, of course, has very serious implications indeed for the practical business of building industrial robots. If robots are never going to be able to cope with an untidy workbench or a collection of components stacked higgledy-piggledy in a box, then the chances of them becoming truly flexible and adaptive workers are greatly diminished. But the existence of the problems which Lighthill identified raises other, more profound questions. If the combinatorial explosion places a limit on robotics, why does it apparently pose no problem to human beings?

One answer to this question has been suggested, in the rather different context of language using computer programs, by the British philosopher, John Searle. In a now famous paper, *Minds, Brains and Programs*, Searle argued that the heart of the matter is the model of intelligence that AI has chosen (or rather been forced by the nature of the computer) to adopt. This model has become known as the "top-down" one; the point being that it assumes that intelligence can be defined in terms of formal rules, such as those which govern the playing of chess.

These rules are, of necessity, deductive; they set out the general principles on which particular cases are to be tackled. In the case of language, Searle argued, this puts a computer in the position of a student who has mastered all the grammatical and syntactical rules of a language, but has no grasp of its meaning. We should not be surprised at the kind of computerspeak that machines produce, sentences such as "High shiny theories walk warmly

in the garden", because the meaning of words is something that can only be learnt by induction.

But any attempt to program robots with brains based on the traditional computer model to learn by induction, by the accumulation of experience, runs head on into the problems of the combinatorial explosion. In order for the computer to learn, it must be provided with a program which gives it the rules for learning - the problem could be compared with that of teaching a six-year-old to ride a bicycle by describing the principles of dynamics which govern the stability of bicycles.

The obvious response is, of course, that we simply do not learn in that way. To take another example, the knack of balancing a broomstick upright on the end of a finger involves essentially the same trick as keeping a rocket upright during its launch phase - the main difference being that the rocket, unlike the broomstick, is prone to rotate about its own axis. Yet the latter feat involves whole banks of computers solving sequences of complex equations while the average child, innocent of anything but simple arithmetic, can master the former with a few minutes' practice.

The third article of this series examines the possibility of a quite different approach to the problem of endowing machines with intelligence, that based on the "bottom-up" principle of studying and trying to reproduce the logical structure of the human brain, on the assumption that a machine which works like a brain will, like a brain, learn without having to be supplied with prepackaged intelligence in the form of a program. Piers Burnett is the co-author, with Igor Aleksander, of *Reinventing Man: The Robot Becomes Reality* to be published by Kogan Page later this year.

moreover...
Miles Kington

A touch of fighting talk

The other day I overheard an American saying: "Give me a shot of Scotch" and it occurred to me yet again to wonder why, although we can almost always understand what Americans are saying, they often say things in a way we never would. Part of it, I think is due to the violence inherent in the way they phrase things. There must be something satisfyingly melodramatic about asking for a shot or slug of whisky rather than a glass or a wee dram, as if every act of drinking was a small piece of personal combat.

I've also heard Americans asking to be hit with a drink - "Hit me with a shot of Scotch," they plead. When the deed is done and the glass lies there empty, they don't say the drink is finished; they tend to say it is dead. Let me freshen it up for you, they say, leaning towards your dying glass, completing the violent scenario with the image of a tiny United Nations helicopter flying into revive a drink with the necessary injection.

All very picturesque, but a bit over the top for British tastes.

That's why I find myself slightly disturbed by the new poster designed to get us to eat more eggs. Showing a massive teaspoon about to demolish an inoffensive egg, it shouts: "Go smash an egg", but the only effect it has on me is to make me want to lock my eggs away in the bank for fear of breaking them. We each have our little ritual for breaking and entering boiled eggs, but smashing them is not one of them. It's a bit off. Not quite on, actually. It's not exactly, well, British.

I suspect that because of our non-violent way of talking about violence other nations are taken by surprise when we actually go to war. The diplomatic furrowed eyebrow and tut tut noises of the British give no hint of the opening shots to come - Argentina certainly seemed taken aback by the sailing of the Task Force.

What I would like to know, getting back to the Americans, is whether their talk is as violent when they are talking about violence as it is when they are talking about pouring drinks. Is Ronald Reagan, to mention the most obvious example, just shooting a line when he squares up to the Russians or is he really looking for a fight? And if it is just bluster, as I suspect, just a bit of American chest thrusting and jaw jutting, do the Russians know this? And if not, will someone please tell them?

My calm confidence that Mr Reagan is not in fact squaring up to a quite different approach to the problem of endowing machines with intelligence, that based on the "bottom-up" principle of studying and trying to reproduce the logical structure of the human brain, on the assumption that a machine which works like a brain will, like a brain, learn without having to be supplied with prepackaged intelligence in the form of a program. Piers Burnett is the co-author, with Igor Aleksander, of *Reinventing Man: The Robot Becomes Reality* to be published by Kogan Page later this year.

I think Mr Reagan is wrong there. In fact, Mr President if you happen to be reading this, I am willing to commit myself now to being grateful if you save our lives in the future. I don't think I'm totally alone in this. Many Britons feel the same way. We'd all be, you know, really quite grateful, not to put too fine a point on it, actually.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 142)

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ACROSS
1 Not common (6)
2 Deer (4)
3 Drugged cigarette (5)
4 One who gives up (7)
5 Presidential democracy (8)
6 Island (4)
7 Warlike (9)
8 Noisy quarrels (4)
9 Envy (8)
10 Flammable gas (7)
11 Immature sows (5)
12 Memorandum (4)
13 Soundness of mind (6)

DOWN
1 Curl tightly (5)
2 Decay (3)
3 Perfection (13)
4 Fierce (4)
5 Fine cloth (7)
6 Norwegian sea inlet (5)
7 Stench (4)
8 Waistband (4)
9 Filthy (4)
10 Enchant (7)
11

MEN'S FASHION by Suzy Menkes

FASHION EDITOR'S COMMENT

Menswear is making news again. For the first time since the 1960s, the peacock parade of street fashion majors on men. And from the stylishness of the street has come a resurgence of confidence and enthusiasm for men's clothes in general.

This autumn sees shop openings for men pop like flashbulbs (see list below)

in London. But the new surge of interest in menswear is fashion world-wide. Significantly, some of the star designer names of the past five years like Giorgio Armani and Ralph Lauren started their careers as menswear designers. Others have had their greatest commercial success with menswear, with Calvin Klein and Pierre Cardin crotch-and-crotch in the selling race for underpants.

Menswear used to be an option that established designers would discuss but not take up. Now the emerging names

— like Comme des Garçons — move into menswear before you can say "knife please".

The point about menswear is that it is no longer based on well-pressed pants, on conforming and conservatism. Although the general trend in men's fashion is towards simple, clean-cut and classic clothes, something has happened to release the inhibitions of men so that designers can now play with colour, fabric and even shape.

I believe that it is street style that has unlocked the pent-up enthusiasm

for fashion among men. Exhibitionism in the British male has been raised to its lacquered peak in the fantastically-dyed coxcombs of punk. The fragmented fashions that have followed — post-punk, Mohican, Hobo and now the Casuals — all challenge our assumptions that men don't care about style; that men's fashions change far more slowly than women's; that men no longer dresses to appeal to the opposite sex.

The new male look is sexy — it has that in common with the 1960s. But

that now means an awareness of the body, of its health and strength, and perhaps a sociological understanding that women can now be the sexual aggressors and that men should dress to attract.

My column today, saluting the new movements in men's fashion, inaugurates a regular series of articles and reports on men's fashion. These will include news reports of the ever increasing number of men's fashion shows and shops, as well as reportage of the all-important street movements

and interviews with men of style about what they like to wear.

I know from those readers (male) who have berated me in the past for missing out on menswear, that there is a demand for men's fashion coverage that does not see male models as female fashion's ultimate accessory. I hope that women who see part of the fashion coverage given over to men will consider it a bonus.

Both sexes, after all, can take pleasure in how the other half looks.

Clean cut

Simple clothes and uncomplicated cut, but imaginative use of colour and especially texture — that is the feeling of menswear this autumn. The overall image is of the honourable schoolboy, upper class chic spiced with cheek.

The new clean cut means sweaters in strong geometric shapes and patterns that divide the body into blocks of colour. The plain, round-necked sweater, often worn with just a simple pair of trousers, is in striking contrast to the layers of shirts, tank tops and jackets, the complex fair Isle and Nordic patterns that were earlier hallmarks of men's style. Everything

is now pared away — collars, details like tabs, double cuffs and pockets. Less is definitely more.

"People just don't realize that it is far harder to design simple clothes than complicated ones," says Paul Smith, a Nottingham-born designer, who describes his clothes as "classics with a twist" and who opens this morning a new shop next door to his existing one in Covent Garden (bringing his shop total to four).

"Suddenly the menswear thing has got a lot more lively. Men have started to break rules. It is now acceptable to have a pale pink sweater. The breakfast TV presenters have helped. They have put the idea about that you

can be a serious person without a jacket on."

Scott Crolla was just flying off to Sefton, the menswear show in Paris, when I talked to him in his Mayfair shop that has the faded grandeur of an English country mansion. Crolla has tried to recreate the classic British look ("to bring back the old standards") but with flashes of fun, like boldly patterned surfer shorts or regular shirts made in tactile, thick-weave Indian fabrics.

"I believe in making quite classic shapes with the fashion influence coming in the fabric," says Scott Crolla, who trained, like his partner Georgina Godley, as a fine artist. Their painter's palette of colour is evident in the new knits, made in abstract blocks of colour by a Welsh supplier. (Most of Crolla's clothes are made to their designs by small British manufacturers.)

Their customers are 30-plus, upper class "as many in the City as in design-conscious jobs."

Georgina Godley says: "Men's fashion is getting fiercer. In our market we are dealing with a conventional man who has always worn exactly the right thing for the country, the city, the evening. But the male sensibility is suddenly not afraid of showing off again."

Established menswear companies (especially from abroad) look to the innovative young menswear designers in Britain whose clothes express most nearly the street mood. At the MAB menswear fair for the trade at Earl's Court, next weekend, there is a group of the avant garde, who show under the banner of the English Menswear Designer Collections and who include Charlie Allen, Aditti, Su Nicholson for Sioux and the appropriately named Street Clothes.

All this movement in menswear is reflected right through to the high street, where a chain like Hepworth has been given new co-ordination and style and department stores are devoting fresh energy to menswear. Here is a list of some of the new launches:

● CACHAREL opening today at 103 New Bond Street, selling the complete Cacharel men's collection as well as women's and children's clothes.

● CUE SHOP with young fashions opened last week at 92 Queensgate, Peterborough. The third free-standing Cue shop from Austin Reed following Kingston and Milton Keynes.

● DEMOB opening a man's shop at 10 Upper James Street on Monday to sell the young and interesting menswear designers like Chris Bruce and Robyn Archer.

● KATHARINE HAMNETT at ICE, 14a St Christopher's Place, the first floor devoted to her designs from next week.

● GIANFRANCO FERRE opening in Bond Street and GIANI VERSACE opening a new larger shop.

● MARCEL LASSANCE of Paris opening at 33-34 Great Marlborough Street on Monday.

● PAUL SMITH opening his new menswear store today at 43 Floral Street with a suit room with 300 suits, separates and accessories.

UPPER CRUST FEET

Shoes AND socks bring the country gentleman look to town. Suede rubs ankles with leather. The utterly English brogues and Oxfords set the pace among the moccasins.



Left: suede and leather tasselled loafer by Charles Jourdan, £102 from 39-43 Brompton Road and Plumline, 41 Floral Street. Socks by S. Fisher, Covent Garden.

Centre: leather and stamped suede lace-up £69.50 Sarah Medway, The Ritz, Piccadilly. Grey/black houndstooth check socks, £8, Paul Smith, 44 Floral Street.

Right: grey leather toe-capped Oxfords £32.99 from Sacha, Oxford Street. Wolsey diamond mesh socks £2.20 from leading stores.

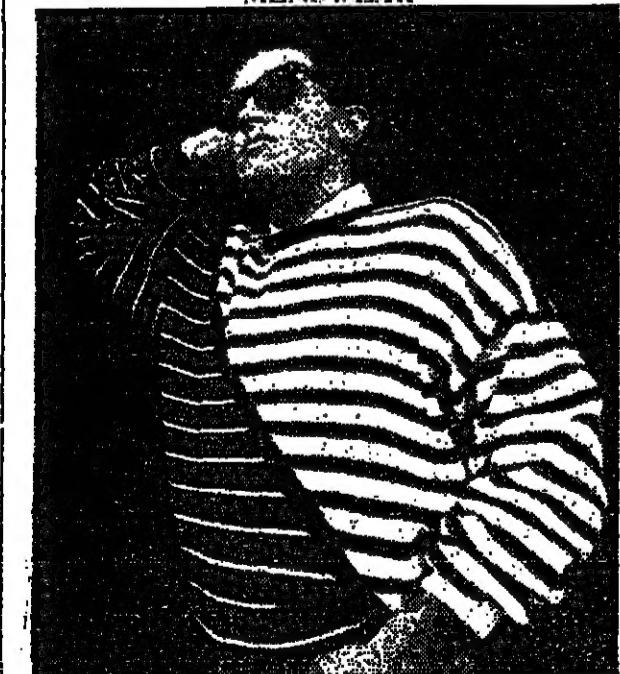


Left: mixed leather and stamped crocodile pump, assorted colours, £27.99 from Ravel, Oxford Circus, W1, and branches. Fine ribbed gentleman's silk socks £6.75 from Liberty.

Centre: quilted-front black leather pump cut like gentleman's slipper, also assorted colours £19.99 from Dolcis main branches. Two-tone ribbed cotton socks, £3.95 from Liberty.

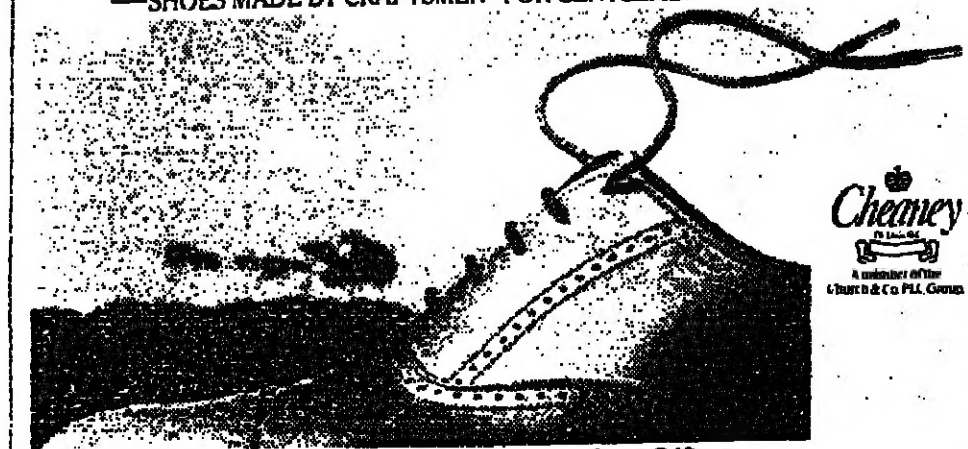
Right: traditional Oxford brogue in brown and black, by Cheaney, £47.95 from A. Jones and Sons, 436 The Strand and branches. Socks by Wolsey. Illustrations by MICHAEL DAVIDSON

BLACK AND WHITE MENSWEAR



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Status ousts protest



The "Casual" kids. Left: Paul Moreton, 19, in Browns geometric crew-neck. Centre: Larry Hibbert, 21, in Armani's colour-block cotton knit. Right: Paul Howes, 19, in Armani with eagle logo on sleeve bought from Gee 2 Kings Road.

Punk, the uniform of protest, disaffection and despair, is officially dead. Long live "Casual" the image-conscious, status-label craze that has put brand names back on the backs of a new generation.

"Casual" started as a sports-led movement, with File and Tacchini tracksuits, Ellesse T-shirts and Slazenger sweaters current collectors' items. Footwear is still

totally sports-oriented with Diadora trainers (endorsed by Brian Borg) outpacing Nike and Adidas. But "Cas" clothing has moved on to embrace status fashion names like Pringle, Cerutti and Cardin that have no special connection with the sports track or tennis court.

Designer logos are the new kids' chic. The Lacoste crocodile, the Fiorucci triangle, the Pringle lion and more recently the Armani eagle are being worn by boys who want to look affluent. (Their beat is actually the tough side of inner cities and their twin meccas Anthony Howard James in Walworth Road and White Hall Clothiers in Camberwell Road).

Money is the root of this particular fashion flowering. ("Please don't print how much my sweater cost," says a 19-year-old. "I told my mum it was £24.99 and that my Burberry was £30.")

Saturday jobs, pocket money, birthday windfalls and fruit machine winnings all go towards clothes, not bought as some might suspect in cut-price shops and markets, but from regular suppliers like Browns or Harrods.

The "Casual" cult of wearing your status on your sleeve/breast pocket is a distorted mirror image of high fashion's preoccupation with status, status and worn fabrics. But that look of course, also started in the street.



HAIR by JOEL O'SULLIVAN at BURLINGTONS, 1 Blandford Street, W1 Photographs by JAMIE LONG

Above: Slate grey geometrically patched fine knit sweater, also black, £125. Plain and stripe mixed cotton shirt, £82. Both Homme by Comme des Garçons at Browns Men's Shop, 23 South Molton Street, W1. Grey pebbly tweed trousers, £25 from Benetton, South Molton Street, W1 and branches.

Above right: Abstract colour rust, navy and bottle green crew neck, also yellow, pink and blue £80. Blackwatch viscose trousers £38. Both from Crolla, 35 Dover Street W1 in three weeks.

Left: School uniform striped cardigan with button V-front grey, green and burgundy and other assorted colours, £35.99 from Pionuco, 128 Kings Road, SW3. Steel grey finely striped shirt, assorted colours £26 by Will Wear from Way In at Harrods; The Warehouse, Glasgow; Apartment, Brighton. Brushed cotton trousers £49.50, woolly tie both from Liberty.

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CIVIL WAR IN THE CHOUE

Lebanese government officials were reported yesterday as claiming they had been given no warning of the Israeli pull-back from the Choue mountains. One understands their frustration at the reality of this withdrawal, and the government's inability to cope, but the charge is manifestly absurd. The Israelis have been talking about a partial withdrawal all summer, and their decision to go ahead with it was officially announced on July 20. Since then they have twice postponed it, on urgent American and Lebanese request, while making it clear that they were determined to move before the Jewish New Year, which falls on Thursday.

Israel can be legitimately criticized not for withdrawing in a hurry but for her actions and inactions in the Choue while she was there. It was the Israelis who, after occupying the Choue without resistance from the Druze militias then controlling it, had first allowed armed PLO fighters from other parts of Lebanon to enter the area; and it is the Israelis, latterly, who have been turning a blind eye while in Druze brought heavy weapons into the area and used them to shell Beirut airport.

Israel, usually more than ready to denounce terrorism and to arrest those suspected of involvement in it, has allowed a gradually escalating war of kidnapping and shelling to go on in an area where she had assumed responsibility for maintaining order, without making the slightest attempt to disarm either of the parties involved. If Israel had wanted her departure from the Choue to be followed by a bloodbath, she would hardly have acted otherwise.

A bloodbath is now happening. The Lebanese government would like the world to believe that it is not a civil war, but something fomented and imposed on Lebanon by outside forces. It is true that outside forces have their hand in it: the responsibility of Syria, as usual, is heavy. Syria has armed the Druze and encouraged them to defy the authority of President Gemayel's government. Syrian troops remain in occupation of the northern half of Lebanon, now in defiance of an explicit and formal request from the Lebanese government, so that the fiction that they are there by invitation of the lawful government is no longer tenable; and it was from Damascus yesterday

that Mr. Walid Jumblatt, the Lebanese Druze leader, generously offered to make his country another Vietnam.

But the actual fighting is now between Lebanese citizens on both sides. What is happening is even more clearly a civil war than the events of 1975-6, for the National Movement, or whatever one likes to call it no longer has Palestinian allies fighting alongside it.

It is also a more conventional civil war in that the government and state apparatus are now on one side, instead of being uneasily neutral as they were then, and the army of the state is doing a significant part of the fighting, thanks to the intensive American training it has had in the past year. The Americans, who went in as a peacekeeping force, must be beginning to feel more at home as the conflict rearranges itself along Vietnamese or Salvadoran lines. If they are not very careful they, and our own gallant ninety-seven along with them, will soon be fighting the war themselves; at which point the other side in its turn will claim that this is not a civil war but a war against American occupation.

WAVES FROM THE SEA OF JAPAN

When assessing the political damage done by the destruction of the South Korean airliner, Mr. Andropov would do well to consider the effects on Soviet policy towards East Asia. Leaders of the two countries most recently concerned, South Korea and Japan, have condemned the shooting down of the airliner in outspoken terms. Premier Nakasone of Japan has described it as an unpardonable and barbarous act, and President Chun Doo-hwan in South Korea has used even stiffer language. Even the Chinese have spoken of Moscow's "effrontery" though in line with the more moderate one that they are taking nowadays towards the Soviet Union, they have not condemned its action outright.

No doubt there are those in the Kremlin prepared to shrug off the expressions of outrage to which the Japanese and South Koreans have given vent. After all, Moscow does not even recognize the Government of South Korea, while it professes to regard the Nakasone Administration as little more than a cat's-paw of Washington. But more prudent counsels should prevail. It is not in the interests of the Soviet Union to antagonize the Japanese and South Koreans as it has done during the past six days, thus increasing the tension in this volatile region of the Far East.

The effect of the incident on Soviet-South Korean relations will be to undermine the limited degree of trust built up between

the two sides during the last decade or so, and especially during the last twelve months. Moscow and Seoul are still deeply suspicious of each other's intentions. But in spite of its truculent North Korean ally, Moscow—like Peking—is in no hurry to change the status quo on the Korean peninsula.

Consequently there has been a series of semi-official exchanges between Moscow and Seoul during the last few years, and the South Korean foreign minister recently expressed the hope that Seoul might pursue a "nordpolitik" similar to West Germany's "ostpolitik" of the early 1970's. The airliner crash will effectively bring this process to a halt, though President Chun may be hardheaded enough to revive it once indignation over the crash has subsided.

The implications of the crash for Soviet-Japanese relations are more striking. Senior Japanese officials have stressed that despite the widespread revulsion felt in Japan, the incident should not be allowed to affect overall relations with the Soviet Union. In this respect Tokyo may differ somewhat from Washington, just as it did, say, with regard to sanctions over Poland. Even so, the incident is bound to aggravate the existing strains between Tokyo and Moscow. It will strengthen the hand of Mr. Nakasone, who takes a hostile view of the Soviet Union, and wants to build up Japan's defences while bolstering its alliance with the United States.

And it will render Soviet hopes of a more neutral, less pro-American Japan even more forlorn than they are now.

The circumstances surrounding the crash will have given people in Japan an unusually graphic impression of Soviet military power. After all, the airliner was apparently shot down just off the southern end of Sakhalin island, a Soviet military stronghold less than thirty miles from the northernmost Japanese island of Hokkaido. The four Soviet-occupied islands at the southern end of the Kurile island chain, claimed by Japan as its Northern Territories, come even closer to Hokkaido than Sakhalin does. Since the late 1970s the Russians have fortified these disputed islands, despite protests from Japan, and the impact of this development on Japan's own security will be even more apparent now than it was a week ago.

In addition, the Japanese will note the manner in which Soviet diplomacy has been conducted during the past six days. Soviet officials have signally failed to respond to Tokyo's urgent requests for information, and Japanese ships have been prevented from going to the scene of the crash to search for survivors. None of this will impress the Japanese in the least. Indeed, it is hard to think of a sequence of events more calculated to upset Japanese sensibilities, and less likely to further Moscow's political objectives.

FALSE CONFIDENCE

Information is the raw material of democracy. By the standards of the Western world, Britain, the most mature democracy, suffers from acute data deprivation. On even the biggest issues the secrecy of the government machine makes sure the citizen is not in a position to make an informed judgment between alternatives until policy has hardened.

The Thatcher administration is in the process of looking beyond the three-year horizon of its standard public expenditure survey cycle, to the late 1980s and early 1990s. Secret Treasury figures show an alarming disparity between the cost of public services and the wherewithal to fund them after 1986—assuming the continuation of present provision and the Government's refusal to allow public borrowing to rise substantially. The choices made by the Cabinet about what shall be cut and where have large implications for the health, education, welfare and safety of all, not to mention the security of the realm from external aggression.

It would be difficult to think of an exercise of public administration that touched more directly upon the lives of all the British people. Yet the Cabinet is behaving as if it were a private company, keeping commercial information secret from its competitors. Government is not business. It exists to serve the citizenry and to protect their interests. It is financed by them through taxation. It is chosen by them through the ballot. To behave in this fashion four months after the electorate returned it with a majority of 144 seats is to show contempt for those who made it what it is—imprisonable in parliamentary terms.

The Treasury team of ministers has now come to believe that private government practised on this scale on this issue is unacceptable to the point of being counter-productive. They want to lead a public debate and provide the necessary data. But will the Prime Minister let them? Hers has been the injunction of silence.

There is no good reason why those Treasury figures, plus models of spending and taxation for the late 1980s based on a range of economic assumptions, cannot be published. The Government does not have to commit itself. The Green Paper is a tried and tested vehicle for discussion. The Prime Minister has won a high reputation for honesty and insistence that the public be confronted with unpleasant truths. She must be able to see that a people is more easily reconciled to hard choices as the necessity, or case, for them is made apparent.

If nevertheless the Prime Minister insists upon the ludicrous precautions taken against leakage of details of the Treasury's exercise, she will probably defeat her own purpose. She will be pushing too far the confidentiality a government is entitled to command; whereupon it is easier for knowledgeable officials to decide conscientiously that disclosing the raw material of the democratic process is not just pardonable but their duty.

Cost of motorways

From the Chairman of the British Road Federation. Mr. Harrison, of the Conservation Society (August 17), produces very misleading criticism of motorway building. He completely ignores the desire by the public for increased personal mobility that has accompanied the rise in living standards since 1945. This led to a substantial growth in car ownership in the 1950s and 1960s, well before the present motorway network was in place. It is therefore wrong to blame motorways for the growth of traffic or the shift away from public transport.

Mr. Harrison's suggestion that we can solve the congestion problem by compulsorily waiting for an oil shortage to force cars off the road is an insult to the 99 per cent of the adult population who hold driving

licences and to all those, whether drivers or not, who use buses.

In fact, motorways have been built primarily to facilitate road travel over relatively long distances between urban areas and not as a solution to traffic congestion within these areas. However, they have had the beneficial effect of taking much heavy through traffic away from towns and villages, as well as reducing accident rates. The uncompleted section of the M40 in Warwickshire and Oxfordshire would result in another 50 communities being effectively bypassed—a very positive environmental contribution.

Provided we maintain our motorway network properly, these substantial benefits will not be short-lived, as Mr. Harrison seems to think.

If the Conservation Society believe that the return of passenger

and freight traffic to the railways would remove the need for motorways or solve the urban congestion problem, they are sadly mistaken. Railways cannot provide the flexibility and convenience required for most passenger and freight transport.

Mr. Harrison's final delusion is that "increasing road freight traffic causes intolerable congestion, pollution and environmental degradation in urban areas". The independent Wood report on heavy lorries in London examined these issues closely and concluded that a heavy lorry ban would have no significant effect on overall congestion and pollution levels.

Yours faithfully, TONY DE BOER, Chairman, British Road Federation Ltd, Cowdray House, 6 Portland Street, WC2, August 19.

Cash backing for film-makers

From Mr. Michael Winner. Sir, To see 36 of the highest paid people in the British film industry seeking (August 30) taxpayer support for them and their co-workers is slightly ironic.

However, as a fellow film-maker, I join in this inconsistency, albeit with some pang of conscience, at a time of other pressing public needs. I cannot subscribe, however, to the idea that the National Film Finance Corporation, which, in my opinion, has done a poor job, should be the vehicle for distributing whatever Government money may be forthcoming.

I do accept that films are an important part of our national fibre, then some £30m per year should, I feel, be provided by Government toward film production. This should be complemented by a levy on blank cassettes (which de facto encourage piracy) and on films shown on TV (the monopoly of BBC and ITV as the only buyers has kept real prices there depressed). Certainly it is not fair that British cinema, through the Eady Levy, should have to subsidise British films when the cinema themselves are in a worse state than the rest of the industry.

The money thus available should then be distributed in the same manner as the Eady Fund, namely by crediting each British film shown with further moneys pro rata to its share of box-office revenue in this country. This would avoid having to make value judgments which are notoriously suspect and boost both popular and specialist film revenues.

Further, such moneys should be withheld until the same production company makes its next British picture, thus ensuring reinvestment of this money in further British films.

I hope this practical system is adopted by the Government, as it is the only one which would genuinely help an ongoing British film industry—at the same time avoiding the loss-making running costs and overheads of the National Film Finance Corporation.

Yours sincerely, MICHAEL WINNER, Director, Scimitar Films Ltd, 6-8 Saville Street, W1, September 2.

A Liberal voice

From Mrs. Phoebe Winch. Sir, Your leader, "A gravel voice from Enniskerry," August 27, was misleading. Apart from the minor error of stating that Tony Greaves is Chairman of the Association of Liberal Councillors instead of our organising secretary, you imply that the ALG is part of a "disorderly doctress" and a "gymnasium for working out political fantasies" which makes the Liberal Party uninterested in, or unsuitable for, real political power.

The facts are that the Association of Liberal Councillors is one of the bodies within the party that has come to terms with the political power because many of its members have political power in local authorities around the country—whether Liberal groups are in control, hold the balance, or are the main opposition.

Their effectiveness is due in part to the professionalism and expertise of Tony Greaves and our staff who provide a support service (publications, training, a very comprehensive filing and reference library, monthly bulletins, etc) for campaigners and councillors.

David Steel's desire for political discipline and responsibility by a party that is poised—with the SDP—for effective parliamentary power is already being realised by many Liberal groups in council chambers. There is therefore no difference between the aims of the Association of Liberal Councillors and the aims of David Steel.

Yours faithfully, PHOEBE WINCH, Chairman, Bristol Liberal Party, 8 Downy Square, Bristol, Avon, August 28.

Iced bunkum

From Dr. David M. Couper. Sir, I imagine Mr. Redpath's iced West (August 20) was more or less indistinguishable in flavour from a distant relative of the choc ice I bought today. This was labelled "chocolate flavoured ice cream with chocolate flavoured coating", ingredients: E322, 471, 407, 410, 412, 102, 122, 141, Ugh!

What is this mysterious substance "E"? I think we should be told. Yours faithfully, DAVID M. COUPER, 26 Bovill Street, Forest Hill, SE23, August 21.

Soviet challenge

From Mr. Raman Napes. Sir, I find it difficult to reconcile the letter of Brian Thomas (August 25) with your heading above, which was "Balanced view of Soviet challenge".

Mr. Thomas's thesis is that the Soviet Union, which was "invaded in 1941", is entitled to the security provided by a system of Soviet-controlled "buffer states" and he suggests further that such a system has been made legitimate by the Western acceptance of it in the mid-forties.

Actually the Soviet expansion into "buffer states" preceded the 1941 German invasion: two years earlier the Soviet-Nazi Pact "legitimised" the Soviet invasion of Poland and the three Baltic states which, so far, have not recovered their independence.

I find Mr. Thomas's statement that this does not make the Soviet Union "automatically guilty of aggression" quite astonishing. His

Investing in new ideas

From Mr. J. R. Livesey. Sir, Heaven help industry if the innovation warrant suggested by William Kingston (feature, August 22) ever is imposed.

Kios innovations and minor improvements to standard lines stem from each firm following a well-defined path. For example, every producer of semiconductor memories is working on getting more memory on a chip. If, after a lot of donkey work, a firm repeatedly finds itself blocked by one or other of its competitors having just obtained an innovation warrant, it will soon stop all development work and wait until the warrant runs out.

The only way the warrant system would seem to work is by licensing some firms to develop know-how in highly defined fields with all other firms having to wait until the warrants run out.

There is a lot wrong with the present patent system, mainly the high cost of obtaining patents, the high cost and delay in investigating whether a proposed venture is blocked by patents, and especially the high cost of litigation. However the system of innovation warrants seems to go back beyond the Statute of Monopolies and have all the snags of the discretionary monopolies prior to that statute.

What may be wanted is not an incontestable warrant but a warrant tied in some way to protecting only a firm's own know-how without preventing others developing that know-how by themselves.

Moreover if the warrant-holder does not have to police his monopoly, who would?

The proposal of warrants would seem to be a step on the path of total state regulation of innovation with a vast bureaucracy to regulate which firms are licensed to follow which lines of development.

Yours faithfully, J. R. LIVESLEY, 111 The Albany, Old Hall Street, Liverpool, August 24.

From Mr. Hugh Bret

Sir, William Kingston's article (August 22) urging the introduction of a "warrant" system to foster new industries by rewarding financial investment through state "monopoly" grants merits the greatest consideration. The columns of your paper all too frequently testify to the sad fact that in the UK we are good at inventing but bad at industrialising and investing in new ideas.

The introduction of new legal concepts can play a vital role in the promotion of commercial objectives. The legal concept, for example, of limited liability assisted the expansion of commerce by introducing a simple device for

Transferring prisoners

From Professor G. J. Zelik. Sir, Your useful leading article, "Far and foreign captivity" (August 26), was not wholly correct in summarizing the provisions of the Council of Europe's Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons, which the United Kingdom has just signed.

You say that a homeland asking for repatriation will have to make clear in advance what it means to do about remission, parole and so on. It is true that there is provision in the Convention for the communication of all relevant information, but the Convention explicitly provides that the enforcement of the sentence, which includes release and parole, is to be governed entirely by the law of the administering (i.e., the receiving) state.

You also say that difficulties would arise if one country considered that the prisoner had discharged his debt to society, while the other regarded him as liable to further penalties. Again, the Convention has express provisions on this point. Either state may grant a pardon, amnesty or commutation of sentence, but review of the judgment remains the exclusive right of the sentencing state and the administering state must terminate the enforcement of the sentence on being informed by the sentencing state that the sentence is no longer enforceable.

There may, as you say, be friction as a result of all this in particular cases, but the Convention has anticipated most of the practical problems and acrimonious or protracted discussion between states after a transfer has been effected is unlikely.

Yours faithfully, GRAHAM ZELICK, Professor of Public Law, Faculty of Laws, Queen Mary College, University of London, E1, August 30.

letter contains too many half-truths and facile comparisons of Soviet and American behaviour to comment on individually. But his unqualified acceptance of the Brezhnev doctrine for Central Europe cannot pass unchallenged.

The Brezhnev doctrine has its origins in the 1939 Soviet-Nazi Pact, and evolved further in the Yalta agreement. Both treat Central Europe purely as a space for the disposition of security systems of superpowers, disregarding the fact that 200 million people of diverse nationalities happen to live there.

These nationalities each have their own history, culture and traditions and their own vision of national, sovereign, destiny. Their aspirations are ignored by many (including Western peace movements) who focus all their attentions on the relations between the superpowers. But the Central Europeans do not accept the role of "buffers" imposed on them: stubbornly and with determination they continue to struggle to achieve their aspirations. This is perhaps incon-

venient to others, but cannot be ignored just to avoid unpleasant realities.

It is the relentless enforcement of the Brezhnev doctrine by the Soviet Union and not the addition of a few hundred missiles to thousands already deployed that is the greatest obstacle and danger to a stable peace in Europe.

The West, always underrating the importance of that region, ignores the lessons of history: the two world wars both started in Central Europe. The nuclear balance of terror has so far, for four decades, prevented an explosion, but the underlying causes of instability remain unrecognised by both the advocates of the "buffer states" and the supporters of the peace movements alike.

"Freedom and peace are indivisible" is not just a slogan—it is the political reality. Yours sincerely, R. N. PETS, Secretary, Support Solidarity, 8 Hillcroft Crescent, Ealing, W5, August 27.

Mr. Kingston's concept in no way seeks to reduce the present role of the patent system in protecting inventions. The "warrant" system would supplement the patent system, since it would be designed directly to meet our political and economic objectives for increased investment. The grant of a "warrant" would be discretionary and flexible and could be made conditional on various factors, as "letters patent" were in the past.

Perhaps the revitalised British Technology Group, with its involvement in the financial investment in new British industries, might direct some attention to the concept. BTG, for example, could sponsor the study of the idea through the Common Law Institute of Intellectual Property, a charity recently set up under the chairmanship of Lord Scarman, having as one of its main objectives the study of the law and the demands of new industries and technologies. Yours faithfully, HUGH BRET, Solicitors and Attorneys, 25 Beaumont Street, Oxford, August 26.

Economics at school

From the General Secretary of The Economics Association.

Sir, It was very encouraging to see Brian Hurl's letter (August 22) revealing his colleagues' and his own belief that Sir Keith Joseph has every reason to be anxious about the neglect by British education of teaching the economic facts of life.

His reservations that the difficult subject at A level, which has been so successfully developed and still attracts more candidates every year, may not be the appropriate focus for exploring Sir Keith's ideas must certainly be stressed, however. To start from A level and then dilute down, as he suggests himself, is meaningless and expresses some of the reservations teachers have about teaching economics at O level or below the sixth form. It not only becomes far too exam-orientated but starts at the wrong end!

Whilst this association has been encouraged by industry to engage in a dialogue about the meaning of economic literacy and what that might imply for the school curriculum, the project team set up at Manchester University in 1980 is really the means through which it is hoped this complex problem will be resolved.

We are confident that the thorough-going development and widely located classroom testing of the materials produced and suitable for children of all abilities below the sixth form by this full-time research will have a great deal to contribute to this aspect of what surely must be general education for all children.

Yours sincerely, F. W. HANKINS, General Secretary, The Economics Association, Temple Lodge, South Street, Ditchling, Sussex, August 23.

Numbers dilemma for polytechnics

From Mr. C. H. Robinson.

Sir, Your editorial, "The polytechnics' open door" (August 31) highlights the dilemma facing polytechnics and colleges: to cram in students and maintain opportunities but put quality at risk or to say "Enough is enough" and pull up the drawbridge.

As you rightly point out, the Government "has sought to cut higher education spending without necessarily incurring the odium of turning away qualified students". The polytechnics and colleges of higher education have responded to the climate of economic restraint and have pared to the bone the cost of educating a student.

The universities, on the other hand, by decision of the University Grants Committee, have maintained resources per student, thereby turning away large numbers of applicants who are joining the lengthening queues outside public-sector colleges. Would-be qualified students have a right to expect both places and good-quality higher education. The National Advisory Body for Local Authority Higher Education warned Sir Keith in July that without further resources that quality was in jeopardy. The proposals issued this week show that both opportunities and quality are very definitely in jeopardy.

Sir Keith must surely heed the cries of those intending students and not allow them to be cheated of higher education they have been led to expect. The polytechnics and colleges must be given adequate funds to cater for the numbers of students allocated by the NAB and to maintain the standards of their courses.

Yours faithfully, CECIL H. ROBINSON, President, National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, Hamilton House, Mableton Place, WC1, August 31.

Straw burning

From Mr. C. G. Harris.

Sir, Perhaps I might be allowed to add my personal view to that of Mr. Mitchell in his letter of August 29.

The drought has so shortened the harvest period that it has concentrated the stubble burn-off into an unusually short time. There has been premature senescence of foliage, already under drought stress, and whilst this is a sad and, alas, unsightly, I would suggest that it is temporary and would hardly occur in the majority of summers.

The trend is already to bale up more and more straw, despite the problems involved, and if only industry could accelerate the stages of development which other methods of disposal have reached then I believe burning would be a thing of the past.

I would hope that Mr. Mitchell and others who may feel as he does would agree that farmers have not set about the deliberate desecration of the countryside, open as they are to the gaze of all, but have mostly carried out a practice which is vital, if yields are not to drop dramatically, with great care and as little inconvenience to others as was possible in very difficult conditions. Yours faithfully, C. G. HARRIS, Wickfield Farm, Shefford Woodlands, Newbury, Berkshire, August 31.

Ever-wider berth

From Dr. Paul Knapman.

Sir, There appears to be an infection spreading down the West Country (apart from Japanese seaweed). It is noticeable that signs alongside moored boats are multiplying.

Two things are clear: they are more common alongside motor "gin palaces" and more popular the nearer to Southampton the boat is registered. Even sailing yachts from Cornwall are now not immune from the infection.

There is a sinister progression. The signs used to say, "Please do not berth alongside". They have progressed through, "Do not berth alongside" to "Berthing alongside forbidden". Last week a board said, "Berthing alongside prohibited. By order" (of whom?).

Is the *esprit de corps* of seafaring men (or weekend yacht persons) on the wane? I wonder if next year we shall see that phrase which is the ultimate to instil terror: "Trespassers on this boat will be prosecuted"?

Yours faithfully, PAUL KNAPMAN, The Athenaeum, Pall Mall, SW1, August 31.

Cash point

From Mrs. Nancy Kenny.

Sir, There is a simple reason for building societies attracting more savers aged under 18 than banks. Banks are open from 9.30 to 5.30. Children are in school from 9 to 3.30. Are they to do all their saving in their holidays?

Yours, NANCY KENNY, The King's Mount, 9 Mansfield Road, Oxford.

Missing the point

From Mr. Michael Rubinstein.

Sir, At the Hayward Gallery where part of the Sculpture Show is currently exhibited, I was not surprised to see a notice reading: "Way out Teller's".

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL RUBINSTEIN, 6 Raymond Buildings, Grays Inn, WC1, August 30.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE
September 5: The Right Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) and Mr Denis Thatcher have left the Castle.

By command of The Queen, the Viscountess Boydell and the Viscountess Boydell were present at the arrival of the Governor-General of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Lady Guy-Munro and welcomed their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
September 5: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips this morning opened the XXII Annual Congress of the British Equine Veterinary Association at the University of York where Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by Her

Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for North Yorkshire (the Marquess of Normanby).

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, attended by Mrs Richard Carey Folio, travelled in the Royal Train.

KENSINGTON PALACE
September 5: The Duchess of Gloucester this morning opened the IV World Congress of the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

A memorial service for Sir Frederick Kenyon will be held at the Royal Parish Church of St Martin-in-the-Fields on Tuesday, October 4, 1983, at 11.30am.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Alan Hooper will be held at St Paul's, Covent Garden, at noon today.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr G. K. P. Watkins and Miss J. L. Hamilton
The engagement is announced between Garth, son of Mr and Mrs R. S. Watkins, of Bournemouth, South Africa, and Jane, daughter of Sir Michael and Lady Hamilton, of Lordington House, Chichester, Sussex.

Mr J. R. Karlskake and Miss N. C. Raison
The engagement is announced between John Burgess, elder son of Brigadier and Mrs Antony Karlskake, of Farnborough House, Walsfield, Oxfordshire, and Naomi, eldest daughter of Mr Timothy Raison, MP, and Mrs Timothy Raison, of Hillbreak, Brill, Buckinghamshire.

Mr J. MacGregor and Miss A. E. Holt
The engagement is announced between Jamie, eldest son of Mrs Moira Noctuit and Mr Graham MacGregor, of Cape Town, and Anne, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Eileen Holt and the late Mr Norman Holt, of Reigate, Surrey. The marriage will take place in England.

Dr G. Q. Maling and Miss J. A. C. Evans
The engagement is announced between Guy, son of Dr and Mrs D. H. Maling, of Denny, Powys, and Julie, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Evans, of Beverley, North Humberside.

Brentwood School
Michaelmas Term begins today. M. K. P. Davies succeeds T. E. Hare as head of school. Half term is from October 11 to 30. Old Brentwood day will be on November 5. Term ends on December 16.

Dean Close School
Autumn Term starts today. Kevin Leach is head of school and Peter Baylis is captain of rugby. Mr C. M. Kenyon has retired from Gate House and Mr M. S. Symonds succeeds him as headmaster. Lieutenant-Colonel W. E. Spradford becomes bursar on the retirement of Brigadier J. H. Montagu. On October 1 the school is having an open day. Old Deanian Day for games against the school is October 31 and term ends after the carol service which is on Thursday, December 15, at 3 pm.

Dulwich College
Michaelmas Term begins today. C. A. Pearce is captain of school and A. R. Mullins is captain of football. The Fifth Alleyway Reunion (1966-75) will be on October 8. House plays will be performed in the Edward Alleyway Hall on November 3. The Christmas concert will be held in the Fairfield Hall on December 5 and the service of lessons and carols will be in Chapel on December 11. Half-term will be October 22-30 inclusive, and term will end on December 16.

King's College School, Wimbledon
Autumn Term begins today with 648 boys in the senior school and 376 in the junior school. R. H. Montgomery is captain of the school and B. K. Desai is vice captain.

Mr B. Stokes succeeds Mr H. Fraser as head of Common Room and Mr J. Barden succeeds Mr R. Hudson as housemaster of Macdonald.

Mr J. Davies becomes senior housemaster. Mr J. Rosser has retired from the junior school Common Room after 37 years of service and Mr D. Warburg after 22 years.

The centenary dinner of the Old King's Club will be held at the school on Friday, October 28, and the Corporation of KCS will meet on Saturday, December 10. Term ends on December 13.

St Dunstan's College
Michaelmas Term begins today and ends on December 16, except being from October 22 to 31. D. C. Edwards continues as head of school. The guest of honour at prize giving on September 28 is Dr Bryan Thwaites, Principal of Westfield College, London University. The Michaelmas concert will be on November 9, and the Festival of Lessons and Carols on December 13. The Old Dunstanian Association dinner will take place at the college on December 9.

Birthdays today
The Right Rev John Bickersteth, 62; Sir Derman Christopher, 68; Major-General L. T. F. Furlivall, 76; General Sir Peter Heilings, 67; Mr Roger Knight, 37; Miss Monica Mason, 42; Mr Justice Pain, 70; Lieutenant-General Sir John Read, 66; R. D. Reid, 85; Sir James Stubbfield, 82; Miss A. Tredgold, 80; Sir Anthony Wagner, 75; Mr J. R. C. Young, 46; Sir William McEwan Younger, 78.

Christening
The infant daughter of Mr and Mrs Simon Sherrard was christened Potty Jane at St Paul's, Chichester, on August 31 by the Rev Roger Russell. The godparents are Mr Roger Wilson (for whom Mr John Stansfield proxy), Mr Andrew Lindsay Baylis (for whom Mr Richard Clough stood proxy), Mrs Stephen Morant, and Miss Josephine Sherrard.

Latest appointments
Latest appointments include: Professor Kenneth J. Arrow to be President of the International Economy Association.

New Development in Historic Towns
An exhibition of architecture including 27 projects in London, York, Bath, Cambridge, Durham, Kings Lynn and Richmond.
6th Sept - 1st Oct 1983

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London SW1

enquiries 01-828 0111

Princess Anne questions training of event horses

Princess Anne yesterday answered criticism that horse eventing courses and fences were too demanding by reminding the British Equine Veterinary Association Congress that measurements of speed and distances for three-day events had actually declined.

"The size of fences has remained unchanged for 15 years," she told her audience at York University.

"Therefore it is the competitors who have insufficiently trained their horses," she asked. The Princess was delivering a paper on the preparation and training of event horses.

She said she hoped that competitors at this week's eventing at Burleigh would cooperate with Dr David Snow, of the Animal Health Trust, who will be doing blood tests on horses before and after the cross-country event.

"It might tell us something we did not know before, but owners tend to be a bit wary of things like needles. With any luck people will cooperate," she added.

"If you look at it from a racing point of view, humans are breaking records all the time but horse records have barely changed in 50 years. Does that mean the trainers of old were better than they are now?"

"Have the horses changed or have standards slipped?"

"Has the veterinary profession lost its lead in sports medicine? I think for a while they were in front of human medicine. There are all sorts of areas ready for investigation."

The Princess at York University yesterday

means that the register has met its original fund-raising target of £185,000.

University news
Reading
Mr Emmanuel Carmelo Cassiagena, of Venezuela, who graduated with a BA in sociology, was the best student in the final examination and has been awarded the Viola Klein prize for 1983.

Grant
The Strachey Trust has made another grant, this time of £20,000 to the location register of twentieth century English literary manuscripts and letters, based at Reading University Library.

After 10 months' work the register is set to complete its five-year task of tracing manuscripts and letters. The trust's latest grant

Mr M. F. T. Stephenson and Miss P. D. Lincoln
The engagement is announced between Andrew Francis Stephenson, son of Mr and Mrs T. H. Stephenson, of Bakerswell, and Philippa Elphine, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. D. Lincoln, of Chester.

Marriage
Mr A. Marlow and Miss E. M. Krawk
The marriage took place quietly in New York on September 3 between Mr Alfonso Marino and Miss Eve Krawk. The bride was attended by Miss Janine Marino and Mr Russell Marino was best man.

Luncheon
HM Government
The Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State, Privy Council Office, and Minister for the Arts, was host yesterday at a luncheon at Admiralty House in honour of Tan Sri Hashim, Secretary to the Malaysian Government.

Reception
Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Sir Sigmond Sternberg, a governor of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, was host at a reception held yesterday at Laureate House, Highgate, in honour of Professor Yehuda Bauer Machover, Professor of Holocaust Studies at the Institute of Contemporary Jewry, Jerusalem. Among those present were members of the British Executive and Friends of the Hebrew University.

Latest wills
Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):
Akroyd, Mr George Sykes, of Liversidge, West Yorkshire. £213,925

Briggs, Mr Solomon, of Crowlands, Lincolnshire. £336,882

Brooks, Lieutenant Colonel John Acton, of Saxmudham, Suffolk, further grant of probate. £799,362

Heap, Mrs Edith Mary, of Turleigh, Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire. £293,560

Hill, Mr William Keith, of Falmouth, Cornwall (builder). £200,357

Kawles, Mr Mervyn Charles Clifford, of Grendon, Northamptonshire. £325,581

Wentworth, Major-General John Talbot, of Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, Deputy Adjutant-General, Middle East Forces 1944-46. £554,300

Mutilated skeletons puzzle archaeologists
Archaeologists have been confronted by some unusual burial rites at a site at Wasperton, Warwickshire, which includes both a Roman and an Anglo-Saxon cemetery as well as a farming settlement.

About half of the 130 graves excavated have contained possessions including jewelry, knives and footgear. But the experts are puzzled by the mutilation of some of the later skeletons. Some had been decapitated after death and the head placed by the feet, while others have had the legs removed and placed around the head.

Television debut: Sandra Young, aged 22, who makes her first appearance as a presenter on the Thames Television children's programme "CBTV" today. The former art and drama student at Crewe and Alsager College of Higher Education, Cheshire, joins the regular team of Jim Sweeney, Steve Steen and Paul Henley (Photograph: John Voos)

Science report
The crow exposed as an Australian bird

By Clive Cookson
All crows originated from an Australian songbird that colonized Asia 35 million years ago. That is just one conclusion of an ambitious re-classification of the world's birds, using the methods of molecular biology.

Charles Sibley and Jon Ahlquist, of Yale University in the United States, have spent the past nine years comparing genetic material, DNA, from about a thousand bird species (more than 10 per cent of the world's total). The work has revealed many evolutionary relationships that were confused or concealed by traditional taxonomy based on physical structure and behaviour.

Their results have appeared in relatively obscure ornithological journals like *Emu*, *Auk* and *Condor*. But *Nature* brings them to a wider scientific audience this week in a review article by Professor Jared Diamond, a

physiologist at the University of California, Los Angeles.

The intention of the project is to measure the true "genetic distance" between species and thence to draw an evolutionary tree showing when they diverged from common ancestors. The anatomical and behavioural characters used by traditional taxonomists are often misleading because unrelated species living in similar environments may develop similar features.

Marshall's are the classic example of this process among mammals. Zoologists who found animals in Australia resembling moles, cats and wolves, realized that they were related to one another because they shared an obvious identifying feature, the marsupial pouch.

Sibley and Ahlquist have shown that most Australian songbirds have a common ancestry like the marsupials. That was not previously recog-

nized because they share no distinctive features so taxonomists often placed Australian birds in the corresponding European families. In fact Australian nuthatches, warblers, flycatchers, thrushes and wrens are related to each other rather than to their European look-alikes.

The DNA studies also indicate that a few groups of birds now found elsewhere in the world, such as the crows, originated in Australia.

The Yale biologists use a tool called "DNA-DNA hybridization". They heat DNA, extracted from birds' red blood cells, to separate its two intertwined strands. Single strands from two different species are then combined to give a hybrid double strand.

Differences between the nucleotide sequences of the different strands weaken the bond between them. Therefore the



The Princess at York University yesterday

Bentley's team takes championship
By a Bridge Correspondent
The final of the English Bridge Union's national Swiss teams championship took place at the Quaker's Hotel, Leeds, at the weekend with 106 teams having qualified from six areas held in May.

After six matches on Saturday, R. Bentley's team held a narrow lead over the other teams.

Consequently, he had the privilege of dancing solos in ballets by Ashton (Scottish Rhapsody in *Façaite*) and Tudor (Tyrolean in *Soirée Musicale*) at his first performance.

Before long, Rambert revived *Le Spectre de la Rose* and the

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The son of John Russell Scott, who was a former manager of *The*

Mr John Gilpin, the former dancer, died suddenly yesterday. He was 53.

From an early age he was one of the brightest stars of British ballet and maintained his supremacy as a dancer of rare style and beauty for more than 20 years until ill-health enforced his early retirement from the stage. After his exceptional gifts as a teacher and as producer of certain works remained in demand.

John Gilpin was born in Southsea on February 10, 1930. His father served in the Royal Navy, so the mother was chiefly responsible for bringing up the family. When some form of physical activity was medically recommended for John, who had never been as robust as his twin brother Tony, she took him to the child's obvious love of music and dancing, and arranged for him to have ballet lessons.

He was lucky enough to find good teachers, and at the age of eight his potential was spotted by Olive Ripman, acting as judge at a competition, who offered him a scholarship to the Cone-Ripman School of Arts Educational (Schools). At only 13, he won the Gold Medal of the Royal Academy of Dancing.

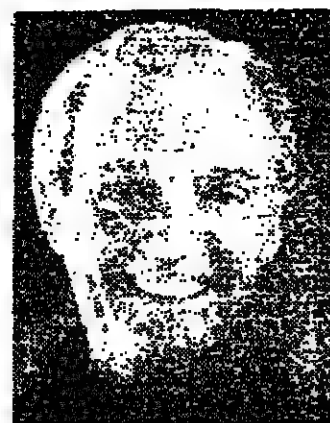
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In 1945, aged 15, John Gilpin was simultaneously offered the title part in *The Winslow Boy* and a contract with Ballet Rambert. With the approval of Terence Rattigan, who befriended and encouraged the boy, he chose to join the ballet. Male dancers were scarce at the time, men of his exceptional quality (even so young) even more so.

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OBITUARY

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THE ARTS

Television

No gentleman, but a great spy

For 12 weeks, Thames Television earnestly hopes we will all be reliving the life of Reilly, not the Reilly celebrated in the American song of the 1930s, but Reilly - Ace of Spies, born Sigmund Rosenblum in Odessa in 1914. He shook the snow off his boots when he discovered he was illegitimate, took off for South America, and subsequently became an agent for British Intelligence at least.

Not many things are known about Mr Reilly for certain, but among the certainties are that he was a hell of a spy, a womanizer, and not averse to killing someone in his way. He was made for television and the lacunae in his career give great scope to the scriptwriter, in this case Troy Kennedy-Martin, who has adapted the story from Robin Bruce Lockhart's book.

The British thought him not a gentleman and we did see him last night quite unmanly, curled on his bed in a fetal position after his mistress had been murdered, having a good cry. Be sure this absence of the requisite upper lip as well as the right background will not inhibit his skill as a spy.

We met him in Baku in 1904, immaculate, with a centre parting in his hair that would survive hair-raising vicissitudes intact, suspected by the Russians, quite rightly, of having spied on their oil surveys in the Persian Gulf. It is a trying time. The Tatars are massacring the Armenians and the Uzbek are being difficult as they always seem to have been, and the Russian captain who is detaining Mr Reilly (then Rosenblum) is everything that the Russians' worst enemies would like him to be.

But Rosenblum-Reilly, said to be the inspiration for James Bond - and "said to be" applies a lot to RR - is equal to it. All he has to do to escape is to compromise an English clergyman's not-too-rectangular wife, kill a quart and bingo, he's back in England to suffer the contumely of his employers. He does have the surveys the British Navy need, the C-in-C having been seen to observe, with true naval perspicacity, that it is no use having oil-fired ships without oil.

The plot swings about here and Reilly re-livers may have needed to refer to the book, readily available, more than once. Nor is character identification easy. Sir Basil Zaharoff (Leo McKern), for instance, I first took him for the Russian ambassador - he looked sinister enough - but he turned out to be an Armenian double-dealer with an entrée to King Edward VII who was pervertedly informing him of the surveys our hero had gone to so much trouble to secure for Britain.

Who would have believed it? But there we are: there's murder most foul and seduction to flavour it and at the end Mr Reilly, now married to that compromised wife, her husband having, understandably, died of a stroke, restored to the bosom of British Intelligence, though no doubt not invited to their clubs, with Rosenblum behind him and off to Port Arthur to glean more about the Russians. Reilly will be there on Wednesday. Know him by the parting - you may not have seen the like since *Brideshead*.

Dennis Hackett

Venice Film Festival Simply perfect



Zelig (Woody Allen) flanked by President Calvin Coolidge and Herbert Hoover

Comedies are rare at film festivals - partly because good comedies are rare anywhere, and partly because most festival directors feel that only solemn faces bespeak serious purposes. Venice, though, has Woody Allen's *Zelig*. *Zelig* has a comic idea of the blinding simplicity of Chaplin's *Monsieur Verdoux* or Bunuel's *Irishman*. It's here is a man so devoid of personality that he becomes a human chameleon, taking on the character and even the physical form of any person he is with.

Allen follows the implications of the anecdote with relentless comic logic. He has written it in the form of pastiche of the familiar documentary film biography, with recreations of old actuality and newsreel styles faultlessly matched to genuine film documents of the Twenties and Thirties. So the fictional Zelig is seen surrounded by Fanny Brice, playing golf, rather than baseball, with Babe Ruth, as a guest at Randolph Hearst's San Simeon, tete-a-tete with Charlie Chaplin and Marion Davies and (most memorable of all) at Hitler's side on a Munich rally platform.

The pastiche is perfect: the obligatory pontiffs are here to give the contemporary viewpoint on the Zelig case - among them Susan Sontag, Saul Bellow and Dr. Bruno Bettelheim. The ultimate joke is to see all the machinery of the media brought to bear upon a man who was rather less than nobody.

Zelig is Woody Allen's eleventh film as writer-director. Even without the others, this is a place him in the company of the cinema's few great creators of comedy, with Linder, Keaton, Chaplin and Bunuel.

Carroll Ballard, who directed *The Black Pigeon* and *The Perils of Pauline* (the subjective view of a lost cat) has become the cinema's champion of the animal world. *Never Cry Wolf*, from Farley Mowat's best-seller, is a piece of ecological mysticism about a young scientist who goes to the arctic wilds to investigate the habits of wolves and comes to see them not as predators, but as honourable equals in the battle for survival. Representing a new Disney image. The film has touches here and there of the old Disney true life adventures, but is cheery romanticism west down big with the Venice audience.

David Robinson

David Blake's opera, *Toussaint*, returns to the Coliseum tonight. Neil Howlett again takes the title role, which he reckons is his until "a slim, short, immensely talented West Indian baritone" comes along. Interview by Hilary Finch

Custodian of the rebellious slave

Toussaint, the epic opera. David Blake wrote between 1974 and 1977 on the life of Toussaint L'Ouverture, the negro slave who led a rebellion against the French in Haiti at the end of the eighteenth century, returns tonight to the Coliseum for its first revival by the English National Opera.

Neil Howlett, who created the title role then, returns to a part which he describes as being "as long as Hans Sachs and about an octave higher". It takes an English-speaking baritone with an unusually wide range, enormous reserves of stamina and the sort of detailed interest and skills in stagecraft that anyone who is familiar with Howlett's *Giulio* or *Idolo* will instantly recognize.

"The part is lying in wait for a slim, short, immensely talented West Indian baritone; but, until there is one, it looks as if I have custody of it," Howlett is the first to admit, though, that there are problems involved in taking on the role of an "honorary Negro". "I've learnt a lot from black actors and dancers who are also on stage. But it is difficult for a white man. The only way is to treat it like any other acting job: to try and understand the person, you're portraying, to assimilate his fears, desires and feelings - and out of that bring his consciousness, not yours."

Howlett acknowledges the invaluable experience of working in the past with directors like Joachim Hezz - "Geniuses at analyzing what is actually in the score. He could pull out of the orchestral mélange themes and motives which even a conductor could miss and use them to make something dramatically vivid and clear. And then something like Feltenstein's dictum that: you can't let the music play without having had a thought or made a movement or gesture which makes it play. It's so simple, but that sort of thinking revolutionized my view of music-theatre."

And, more particularly, Howlett has been studying C.L.R. James's *The Black Jacobins*.



Neil Howlett with Anne-Marie Owens as Suzanne

"This is one of the few histories not written from the French point of view - and there's very few of them. Just the other day, I came across a piece from Napoleon, while he was on St Helena talking to the governor of the island about his view of the world. He said he always believed in the rights of the people and in giving them what they really wanted - as he did in Santa Domingo. Well, that's a wild enough distortion: he incarcerated Toussaint in a castle in the Jura mountains and allowed him to die of cold."

As far as vocal stamina is concerned, Howlett has teachers like Otakar Kraus and Lilli Lehmann to thank for a high baritone firmly undergirded by a resilient bass-baritone range. "Lilli Lehmann insisted on 'basing' all one's training on extremely long, slow singing. She started as a lyric soprano and ended up singing 'Isolde'. And while she sang 'Isolde', she continued with parts like Violetta, Constanze and Norma, with her coloratura range quite

unimpaired. What are you to make of such a lady?" David Blake's combination of Bergian *sprechgesang*, speech and song is now deeper under Howlett's skin - and that of a good percentage of the original cast, but Howlett does not minimize the difficulties which he feels are common to all modern composers who lack the close involvement with singers that Mozart and nineteenth-century Italian composers benefited from. "They just don't understand the part of the voice to write in for the clear production of words. You only have to look at a Mozart recitative to see that, wherever words have to be heard clearly, you don't write at the top of the voice where vowels are distorted and speaking vowels do not exist."

"When I first sang *Toussaint* it was by far the largest thing I'd ever done. Now it doesn't seem to loom like an enormous ogre as it used to." So who is the ogre now? "Wagner! I've only come to him over a long period of gentle

indoctrination really, and I don't know what's going to happen there. I'm going to cover Wotan in the *Walküre* in October, and then do the *Dutchman* at the beginning of the next ENO season."

Meanwhile there will be Sharpless in *Madame Butterfly*, Lord Mountjoy in *Gloriana* and Montfort in *Sicilian Vespers*. But what, in his heart of hearts, would Howlett like to see in the crystal ball? "Well, I have a secret hankering for Falstaff. I've played so many villains that I'd love to do a comic role, and I love the work deeply." And he is keen to continue a certain amount of work abroad - the only way, it seems, even as a fine linguist, he has a chance to sing in the original language.

Valuable supplementary reading, like A. Cronin's *Toussaint L'Ouverture* and a series of booklets published by Hantons can be obtained from Bogli-Ouverture Publications Ltd, 5a Chignell Place, W13 (579 4920).

Galleries

Discoveries in uncharted territory



At Sea: Rowlandson's "Salutation Tavern, at Greenwich" and Down in the Mines; M E Thompson's "Conveyor Belt" (right)

so many famous names (Rowlandson is an exception), but many discoveries to be made, right up to a couple of beach scenes by W. L. Wyllie from the Nineties, well worthy of Boudin.

If, instead of Eastward Ho, we strike north towards the Camden Arts Centre, we find another theme exhibition where documentary and art are nicely balanced. Three exhibitions, to be precise, built round the general theme of Quarries (until September 25). The combination is happy, but probably the most interesting of the three is *The Road to Bethesda*, a 22-year retrospective of the work of Peter Freudenstein. In this case the theme of the quarries is almost coincidental, bulking so large in Freudenstein's paintings largely because for the past 13 years he has lived and worked close to Bethesda.

What does matter is that over the period covered by the show, which is right from his time at the Slade up to date, Freudenstein emerges gradually, from the shadow of his dominating early influences, Auerbach and Bomberg, and becomes very powerfully and convincingly his own man. The menacing expressionist landscapes take on a life and

weight of their own, and the subtlety and intensity of colour he can find in the grey skies and bare stones of industrial Wales attest to the intensity and individuality of his vision.

The intentions of Miss M. E. Thompson (1896-1981), as shown in *An Artist in the Quarries*, seem to have been unashamedly documentary: she was recording, in a quite journalistic way, the life and work of the quarries, and their physical appearance, with an awareness that these were things likely soon to change and vanish for ever. But whatever the limitations of the original intention, what emerges is often very fine in its own right, and some of the landscapes of mammoth abysses have a feeling for the sublime, over and above the merely picturesque, which sends us right back to James Ward and Gordale Scar. The third section is documentary in a different sense: a trailer for Portland Clifftop Sculpture Park, recently opened in photographs and sketches and studies for the full-scale finished works on site. It is a pleasing show in itself, and certainly encourages one to sign on for the next coach trip.

Talking of the sublime reminds me that 1883 was marked, not

only by the death of Manet and Doré, which we have already marked, but also by the death of an island, Krakatoa, which literally sent reverberations round the world and provided landscapists, amateur and professional, with a succession of the most spectacular proto-Technicolor sunsets on record. Some of these are included in the little show the National History Museum has put on until October 25 to commemorate the centenary of the eruption on August 26 1883, which also features amazing photographs of the aftermath.

If the Krakatoa show provides one tiny footnote to art history, the show devoted to the work of Talwin Morris at the William Morris Gallery in Walthamstow, until October 2, offers another, particularly apropos with all the attention presently being paid to Charles Rennie Mackintosh in



Edinburgh and Glasgow. Talwin Morris (no relation to William Morris) was an early associate of Mackintosh, and designed in a very similar style, evolving at the beginning of the Nineties a spare, often rectilinear manner of graphic decoration such as represents the major British contribution to the development of international Art Nouveau. In 1893 he became art director for Blackie, the Glasgow-based publisher, and for the next 18 years himself designed or commissioned from others the bindings and decorations of all their books. Since they were in the main a cheap, popular publisher, his work went generally unmarked by bibliophiles, but clearly had an immense influence on popular taste.

John Russell Taylor

Mixed opinion

It is a rare pleasure to be able to sit in the beautiful Carré Circus Theatre in Amsterdam and watch the type of entertainment for which it was designed. This splendid building, erected in 1887, is almost the last surviving of the great circus theatres that once graced every major city in Europe. Usually, these days, the ring is filled with seats, but when the Russian State Circus comes to Holland the theatre is restored to its original purpose.

Circus has been a popular entertainment in Russia ever since the English riding master Charles Hughes brought some blood stallions and breeding mares to St Petersburg in the eighteenth century, and was taken as a lover by Catherine the Great. It flourished under the tsars, and has continued with generous state support under the Soviet Ministry of Culture.

To some tastes, the current style of Russian circus is too adulterated with extraneous show business. Purists will feel that there are too many dancing girls and not enough straight acrobats in the present programme. The only horse-riding number is presented as a kind of Wild West farago rather than as a display of *voltige*. Connoisseurs of pure circus skills are better served by the Knie Circus in Switzerland or the Gruss Cirque à l'Ancienne in Paris. But the Carré circus was designed for a mixed media entertainment, and although the stage is not used in the current show that is to some extent what it amounts to.

The programme is held together by the clown André Nikolajew, a winner of the Grock Prize and a worthy successor in the line of Karandach and Popov. Russian clowns have abandoned both the elegant white face and the grotesque *auguste* tradition of clowning for a more naturalistic style. Nikolajew plays as a cheerful, mischievous intruder into the performance and establishes a happy relationship with the audience from the start. His parody of Swan Lake, in which he bumps on an inflated turn to every beat of Tchaikovsky's music, is superb, and his inventive by-play with the ring-

Circus



André Nikolajew: holds programme together

master and an aged violinist (who turns out to be a lady) cultivates the pauses between the turns. To watch him is to enjoy the art of gesture and facial play at its highest level.

The Russians have succeeded in training bears to a degree unmatched elsewhere, and Boris Ivanow demonstrates some remarkable results of what he describes as a humane relationship between trainer and animal, based on rewards. But bears, like the big cats (who do not appear in this programme), are not able to convey any feeling of delight in their mastery of difficult tricks; whereas the dogs, trained by Marina Papazowa, fill the ring with a riot of joyous leaps, and the camels of Valentina and Alexandre Nikolajew display an art for broad comedy that is not usually associated with the stately ships of the desert.

There are good, if standard, acrobatic acts: barrel jumping, the swinging trapeze, including head-balancing, and a daring perch act. In any of these in which some risk of injury is involved, the artists wear a safety lunge. This is an exceptional precaution in western

circuses, and views about it differ. Some people, including Cyril Mills with the experience of the Bertram Mills Circus behind him, hold that its use should be confined to training, and that it is improper to wear it in performance. If a trick cannot be performed safely unaided, it should not be performed at all. Others hold that, by preventing the terrible results of an accident, it enables feats of exceptional difficulty to be presented before the public; and that the spectators, freed from the guilty yet tempting attraction of the spice of danger, are better able to appreciate the skill of the artists.

None of these strictures could apply to the flying trapeze act of the Lozovik, which - although not attempting the triple somersault - gave a display of passes and pirouettes in mid-air so perfectly executed that it brought the house down.

The Russian State Circus goes on from Amsterdam to a tour of Holland, up to September 27, and then into Belgium, to the end of October.

George Speaight

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Departures from Heathrow or Manchester. Exact fares no extras. Book and pay one month in advance. Depart mid week. London to: Faro £124, Lisbon £124, Oporto £115, Funchal (Madeira) £165 and Ponta Delgada (Azores) £181. Manchester to: Faro £139, Lisbon £139, Oporto £130, Funchal (Madeira) £180, Ponta Delgada (Azores) £196.

Flights between September 19th - October 31st. Contact your Travel Agency or ring London 01-828 0262, Birmingham 021-643 5264, Manchester 061-499 2161, Prestel 3442602.

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MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Share offers snapped up

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Sept 5 Dealings end, Sept 16 Contango Day, Sept 19 Settlement Day, Sept 25.

Among these Associated Dairies rose 2p to 172p, BP fell 10p to 426p. Blue Circle Industries lost 5p to 428p. Cadbury Schweppes 2p to 100p and London Brick held steady at 86p.

Shares of Edensprung Investments, the old Penine Commercial, has been attracting interest following its recent capital reconstruction. Yesterday the shares rose 4p to 144p - just a whisker short of the year's high. Word is Mr Michael Ashcroft, of Hawley Group, and Mr David Wilkins, of British Car Auctions, have been buying the shares. Mr Ashcroft returned with a firm "no comment".

Glits were able to draw on the latest US money supply figures for support. At the longer end of the market rises of over 50p were recorded, while on the foreign exchange the pound rose 0.4 cents to \$1.53.

Brewery shares were not impressed by a 7.9 per cent production upsurge in July - the

market had expected an even better performance. Even so it is the first significant advance scored by the industry for some time and out the 1983 beer production decline to just 0.7 per cent, underlining hopes that the long slide in consumption is at last coming to an end.

With July's hot weather continuing the August production figures should also be good. But yesterday although Allied-Lyons rose 1p to 142p and Scottish & Newcastle 1p to 89p there were falls in Greene King 2p to 192p, Marston Thompson 1p to 106p and Whitbread 1p to 140p.

Beas was also unchanged at 338p and Graad Metropolitan at 324p. The oil sector continues to buzz with bid gossip. Burmah rose 8p to 172p on talk of a bid from Ultramar, 8p higher at 692p. At this level Burmah is valued at £247.5m. Market pundits are also again talking of a bid for Tricentrol, 14p higher at 232p, from the mining giant Rio-Tinto Zinc, 8p firmer at 662p. RTZ has already denied any interest in

Tricentrol although close followers still believe RTZ might be slowly building up a stake.

The British computer industry appears to have been rocked to its keyboards by the troubles at Mettoy where the institutions

have just mounted a £2.5m rescue package for Dragon Data, the home computer group. Mettoy rallied 5p to 13p, but there were losses in A.B. Electronics 53p to 76p, Cifer 33p to 158p, Micro Business 20p to 45p, NMW 8p to 230p and Renishaw 15p to 213p.

Groveswood Securities has sold its entire stake of 1.84 million

shares in Associated British Engineering, the diesel engine manufacturer, for an undisclosed price. The group's biggest outside shareholders are Scottish American Investment Trust with 12.4 per cent of the shares between them. Shares of ABE slipped 1p to 34p on the news in their ex-div form.

Meanwhile, Scottish American Investment has sold its entire holding of 235,000 capital shares in Ambrose Investment Trust. This represents 6.35 per cent of the equity.

Shares of Henderson Administration, the unit trust manager, slipped 3p to 333p after it was revealed several institutions had increased their stakes in the company. Witan Investments now owns 3.86 million shares (37.31 per cent of the equity). While Electric & General Investments has increased its stake to 1.4 million shares or 13.69 per cent.

Shares of Spencer Clark Gears rose 5p to a new high of 28p yesterday after Meneith Investment Trust, the investment arm of British & Commonwealth shipping, confirmed it has had an approach for its 30 per cent stake in the company. "We are not interested in selling at the moment", a Meneith spokesman said.

RECENT ISSUES

Company	Price	Change
Associated Machine Tools	100.00	+0.10
Computer Systems	100.00	+0.10
Draco Holdings	100.00	+0.10
Edensprung Investments	100.00	+0.10
Greene King	100.00	+0.10
Marston Thompson	100.00	+0.10
Whitbread	100.00	+0.10
Yelland	100.00	+0.10

1982-83 High Low Company Price Change Pence % P/E

Company	Price	Change	Pence	%	P/E
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BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY BELL'S

1982-83 High Low Company Price Change Pence % P/E

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Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00

1982-83 High Low Company Price Change Pence % P/E

Company	Price	Change	Pence	%	P/E
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00

1982-83 High Low Company Price Change Pence % P/E

Company	Price	Change	Pence	%	P/E
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00

1982-83 High Low Company Price Change Pence % P/E

Company	Price	Change	Pence	%	P/E
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00

1982-83 High Low Company Price Change Pence % P/E

Company	Price	Change	Pence	%	P/E
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00

1982-83 High Low Company Price Change Pence % P/E

Company	Price	Change	Pence	%	P/E
Adams	100.00	+0.10	100.00	+0.10	100.00

Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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London WC1X 8EZ
Telephone 01-837-1284

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 7132.50 up 7.4
FT 100 Index 7132.50 up 7.4
FT 100 Index 7132.50 up 7.4
Bargains 20,003
Datastream USM Leaders
Index 98.64 down 0.93
New York (closed)
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones
Index 9,228.35 up 27.44
Hong Kong Hang Seng
Index 928.40 down 22.40
Amsterdam 149.7 up 0.5
Sydney AO Index 723.0 up 8.0
Frankfurt Commerzbank
Index 928.30 up 3.90
Brussels General Index
132.08 down 0.41
Paris CAC Index 133.6 up 0.5
Zurich SKA General 287.8 up 0.8

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1,500 up 45 pts
Index 85.4 up 0.1
DM 4.0275
FF 12.1100
Yen 369.00
Dollar
Index 129.1 down 0.4
DM 2.6842

NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1,500 up 45 pts
Dollar DM 2.6850
INTERNATIONAL
ECU 5.56362
SDRD 6.99518

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates
Bank base rate 9 1/2
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week
fixed 9 1/2
3 month interbank 9 1/4-9 1/2
Euro-currency rates
3 month dollar 10 1/4-10 1/2
3 month DM 5 1/4-5 1/2
3 month FF 15 1/4-15

US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9 1/4
Treasury long bond 10 1/4-10 1/2

ECSD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period July 6 to August
2, 1983 inclusive: 9.989 per cent

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce)
am \$420.00 pm \$418.10
close \$419.00-418.75 (\$278.00-279.50)
New York latest \$417.50
Krugerrand (per coin)
\$432.00-433.50 (\$287.50-288.50)
Sovereigns (new)
\$99.00-100.00 (\$66.00-66.75)
Excludes VAT

TODAY

Interim James Beattie,
Brammer, Exco Int'l, IMI, Kode
Int'l, Moben, In. Nichols (Vint),
Nordin and Pascoe,
Pentos, Provident, Financial,
Reckitt and Colman, Robinson
Bros. (Ryder), Shaw, Sharpe
and Fisher, Stewart, Warrington,
Wadkin, Wilson (Connolly),
Finale, Cantors, Datastream,
Land Investors, Old Court Int'l,
Reserves, Ricardo Consulting
Engineers.

Economic statistics Retail
sales (July Final). Credit busi-
ness (July). Producer price
index numbers (August, prov.).
London clearing banks' monthly
statements (mid-August).
Provisional estimates of mon-
etary aggregates (mid-August).

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Alnair London Properties,
Institute of Directors, 116 Pall
Mall, SW1 (noon)
Associated Tooling Industries,
Institute of Directors, 116 Pall
Mall, SW1 (12.00)
McLeod Russell, Victoria
House, Vernon Place, WC1
(12.00)

NOTEBOOK

Australian oil shares soared
after the announcement on
Friday of a big strike in the sea
between Australia and Indone-
sia. BHP gained A\$2.35 to
A\$12.35 and at the other end of
the market the small Consol-
dated Petroleum more than
doubled from 23 to 53 cents.
There is no doubt that reserves
at Jabiru One are big and that
the chances of other strikes
are high. But profit-taking may
hit shares.
Simon Engineering reports a
slight downturn in pre-tax
profits from £7.5m to £7.4m in
the six months to June 30. The
group said that the benefits
from improving its activities will
show through in 1984 and later.
Page 39

Terms for competitors must reflect cost of branch networks

Barclays chief warns of challenge to banks by building societies

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Sweeping changes in the field of domestic banking arising from the competition for deposits and loans from electronic technology were predicted yesterday by Mr Timothy Bevan, the chairman of Barclays Bank.

He said that the latest competitive threat to the banks' retail deposit bases - from the cheque accounts now being offered by building societies, and - more recently by finance houses - "could present a formidable challenge."

Mr Bevan was discussing the closing of the retail deposit bases, which many domestic banks believe is the key issue of the 1980s, in a paper presented to the Institute of Bankers' Cambridge seminar on "The Bank and Personal Customers".

He said it was difficult for the banks to decide on what terms its competitors should be allowed access to clearing facilities. "These terms must be fair and must avoid any attempt to create monopoly power."



Bevan: "Banks must remember customer in electronic age"

Mr Bevan contrasted the success of the banks in gaining a bigger slice of lending to the personal sector, through their marketing efforts, with their loss

of market share on the deposit side.

A decade ago non-interest-bearing deposits provided half the banks' resident sterling deposits. But now the proportion was about 30 per cent.

He said that the banks had suffered from the building societies' competitive advantage with the composite tax rate and the increased share of National Savings. However, he conceded that the growth of the wholesale money markets, which enabled the banks to lend more aggressively, "may also have tempted them to moderate, or at least take too much for granted, the importance of a strong retail deposit base."

Between 1981 and 1982 the banks lent £14.5bn to the personal sector but raised only £8.5bn in personal deposits, whereas previously the personal sector was usually a net provider of resources.

"Now the clearing banks are feeling a little uncomfortable about the share of non-personal and wholesale borrowing in their balance sheets, especially in view of the growth of their medium- and long-term lending."

Exchange decides outsiders' terms

By Philip Robinson

Details of how the Stock Exchange will govern itself are being thrashed out today. The Exchange's ruling 46-member council will debate how and on what terms it will allow outsiders - non-Stock Exchange members - into its meetings.

The outsiders will open up decision-making for the first time. The debate today is how many there should be, who they should be and whether they should be paid.

The debate is a crucial part of a reform package designed to keep the Exchange out of the Restrictive Practices Court. It was due to be taken there by the Office of Fair Trading until the Government intervened two months ago.

The changes to council membership need the approval of a 75 per cent majority of the Exchange's 4,000 members, and this will be sought at an extraordinary meeting in October. A failure to secure that majority could mean the Exchange would go before the Restrictive Practices Court.

Sinclair meets £14m profits forecast

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

Sinclair Research, Sir Clive Sinclair's pioneering home computer group, has achieved its forecast £14m profit for 1982-83. The results, announced yesterday, confirmed the City doubters who were expecting the intense competition in the micro-computer market to dampen the company's spectacular growth rate.

The profit is up by 65 per cent on 1981-82, when turnover doubled to £54.1m. The figures match last January's projection when Sir Clive raised £13m by selling 10 per cent of his company to 100 City investors.

But Sinclair's financial year ended on March 31. So the results do not reflect the spectacular price-cutting that has swept the home computer market in the United States and to a lesser extent, in Britain, during the spring and summer. The competition has led to multi-million dollar losses for some American manufacturers - notably Texas Instruments, Atari and Mael.

While the two well-known British producers, Dragon and New Brain, have run into serious difficulties.

The company is not saying how sales and profits are going during the current financial year, though it acknowledges that the past year's growth rate will not be repeated. Sir Clive says only that progress looks "pretty good."

Timex, which makes Sinclair computers and sells them under licence in the US, has been hit badly by the American price war. The financial arrangement, whereby Timex pays the company a royalty on US sales, has insulated Sinclair from heavy losses there.

Sinclair is about to launch the long-awaited, bit-serial television. But Sir Clive warns in his chairman's statement: "It will take some considerable time to reach high levels of production."

Sir Peter Carey to join bank

By Our Financial Staff

Sir Peter Carey, the former permanent secretary at the Department of Industry, is joining one of the City's top merchant banks, Morgan Grenfell.

Sir Peter is to become an executive director of Morgan Grenfell Holdings, the parent company for the merchant bank, from November 1.

Mr Christopher Reeves, group chief executive of the holding company, said that Sir Peter would be operating as part of central management, working closely with himself, the chairman and the six divisional heads.

Morgan Grenfell approached Sir Peter because of his experience in industry. He will be a full-time executive at Morgan Grenfell although he has other outside directorships.

Sir Peter was permanent secretary at the Department of Industry from 1976 until retirement earlier this year. He is 60.

London Trust sells 29% of Theakston

By Derek Pain, City Correspondent

Mr Michael Abraham, who created the AW (Securities) carpets group more than a decade ago, is moving into the brewing industry. He has acquired a 29 per cent shareholding in the unquoted brewery T. and R. Theakston and expects to gain control shortly.

His 29 per cent interest cost £480,000. The shares came from London Trust, which intends to retain a 13 per cent shareholding.

Theakston, with breweries at Carlisle, Cumbria and Masham, Yorkshire, has only 10 tied pubs but sells nationally through free houses, clubs and off licences. Its best known beer is Old Peculier.

Profits in the year to last March were £175,000 (£247,000). Sales are around £9m a year.

Mr Abraham has a remarkable career with AW. When he took over in 1966 the carpet maker lost £466,000. In 1973, when Champion International, an American conglomerate, paid £40m for the company, profits were forecast at £6.5m.

But Champion lost interest in the British carpet industry and in 1980 Mr Abraham bought a significant part of AW from the Americans for more than £1.5m.

This old AW company is called Weavercraft. Sales are running at £17m a year.

He runs Weavercraft through his family investment company, M D Abraham, which has taken the interest in Theakston.

To strengthen the brewery's balance sheet, a £650,000 rights issue will be made shortly. M D Abraham will underwrite the issue, an exercise which should lift the Abraham stake to just over 50 per cent.

London Trust, which until yesterday owned 48 per cent of Theakston, is not expected to take up its rights entitlement. It is reducing its involvement as part of its policy to contract the wide spread of its investments.

The Abraham involvement is likely to lead to a powerful push to promote the Theakston brands.

Mr Paul Theakston, whose family started the brewery in 1827, is stepping down as chairman but remains a director. Mr Gervase Thomas, one of the creators of the J. H. Vaseux financial group, is to resign as managing director but will also remain on the board.

Mr Abraham, who is to join the board, will with Mr Thomas seek a new chairman as well as new managing and marketing directors.

BPCC up 52% in first half

By Andrew Caraculac

British Printing & Communication Corporation (BPCC) reported a 52 per cent increase in pretax profits to £7.6m (£5.02m) in the first half of the year. The company's turnover was £118.5m (£98.5m). Net interest/dividend nil (same). Share price 115p up 2p.

British Printing & Communication Corporation yesterday reported a 52 per cent increase in pretax profits to £7.6m in the six months to June 30. And Mr Robert Maxwell, the chairman, said profits would have been £1.6m higher without the strike earlier this year at the Park Royal printing plant in London which prints the Radio Times.

He promised that the board will recommend a dividend of not less than 5p per share out of 1983 profits, after three years without paying a dividend. This is not dependent upon the outcome of the proposed £20m redevelopment of the former Odhams site in Watford, Mr Maxwell added.

The merger of the Odhams and Sun Printers plant in Watford will be completed by the end of the year. By that time 1,400 jobs will have disappeared with savings of £1.5m a year.

The publication of the interim figures gave Mr Maxwell one more opportunity to stress the benefits to John Waddington shareholders of accepting BPCC's £18m takeover terms before the bid for the company closes tomorrow afternoon. "It will be a closer run thing," Mr Maxwell said.

But last night, Mr Victor Watson, chairman of John Waddington, which makes the Monopoly board game, said that he was still confident of winning the fight against BPCC takeover.

David Sassoon drops appeal

By Our Banking Correspondent

David Sassoon, the licensed deposit taker, yesterday withdrew his appeal against the Bank of England's decision to take away its conditional licence.

It lodged its application to withdraw the appeal at a brief hearing before the Banking Act Appeals Tribunal. The application has to be approved by the Chancellor of the Exchequer before Sassoon's licence can be formally withdrawn.

Under the 1979 Banking Act, any business which finances its lending operations by taking deposits needs to have a licence granted by the Bank of England. Revocation of a licence is a significant blow.

cutting at the heart of any banking operation.

The 1979 Banking Act, which gives the Bank of England extensive powers to investigate or demand information from banks or deposit takers, and revoke licences subject to appeal to the Chancellor, defines deposits as sums of money which are placed without security and are repayable either on demand or at a specified date.

After losing its licence, a deposit-taker would have to return existing deposits to customers. However there would be nothing to prevent a financial institution without a licence from continuing to offer financial

advice or providing other services such as arranging loans through a third party. The licensing system under the 1979 Act is specifically directed at raising deposits.

Last year the Bank of England took away the licences of seven deposit-taking institutions. Two appealed but later withdrew their appeals. In one case, having revoked a licence, the Bank then granted another one, subject to certain conditions.

The Bank never comments on why it is taking away a licence.

John Brown has disposed of its controlling interest in Tooling Products (Langrish), near Petersfield, Hampshire.

Rivalry over IMF post intensifies

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

The pace of the traditional behind-the-scenes lobbying for one of the most influential jobs in the international financial community - chairmanship of the interim committee of the International Monetary Fund - is being stepped up, with just three weeks to go before the IMF's annual meeting in Washington.

The acknowledged front-runner, Mr Willy de Clercq, the Belgian finance minister, has let it be known that he is prepared to accept the job if offered it, while coyly refusing to put himself up formally as a candidate.

But the Dutch finance minister, Mr Onno Ruding, is also believed to be interested in the job. No other names have been mentioned.

The chair of the interim committee - the IMF's powerful governing body - was vacated by Britain's former Chancellor, Sir Geoffrey Howe in June, when he became Foreign Secretary.

His successor must confront some of the most difficult problems ever faced by the Fund, including the still-dangerous international debt crisis and a growing cash shortfall for the Fund itself.

The succession may effectively be decided this weekend in Greece when EEC finance ministers meet to discuss, among other things, their preferred candidate - probably Mr de Clercq.

The Belgian has done the job once before, between January 1976 and June 1977, and campaigned vigorously for the chairmanship last time around, when he lost to Sir Geoffrey.

Hunt creditors' meeting put off

The creditors' meeting of the failed investment advisers, Exchange Securities, which collapsed last April owing investors more than £25m, has been postponed.

It was due to take place this month but an accountant Mr Stephen James, and the special manager called in by the Department of Trade and Industry to investigate, say that it has been put off because a group of investors are claiming that their funds were held in trust by Exchange Securities, the firm set up by the visiting financier, Mr Keith Hunt.

"What has caused the delay is a query over the status of some 300 investors," Mr James said.

The Official Receiver will be investigating the investors' claim. Until it has been decided whether these investors are creditors, the creditors meeting cannot be held. The meeting must be held before the end of February 1984.

Trade alert on risk to exports

Call to revamp aid strategy

By John Lawless

Britain has to be much more alert to the way its competitors are using aid money to generate job-creating exports, according to a report published today.

It notes that France is now using a subtle mixture of aid and exports credits to attack markets, mostly former British colonies, that have been dominated by the United Kingdom.

"The French have their own colonies, colonial territories own up and that gives them room to have a back at us," Mr Peter Godwin, director of the merchant bank Lazard Bros and chairman of the Tropical Africa Advisory Group's (TAAG) committee on aid, credit and trade, said yesterday.

TAAG is a body of business-

men and advises the Government on export policy and promotion in the region. Mr Godwin's committee prepared the 124-page report on the nine countries in the region, and on how seven of the most advanced industrialized countries approach the question of making money available for new projects and capital goods sales.

The nine include those which used to be controlled by Britain: Nigeria, where the United Kingdom still accounts for a fifth of all imports, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Zimbabwe. It also takes in the Marxist states of Angola and Ethiopia, and the French-dominated Cameroon and Congo, the latter of which takes less than

\$10m in United Kingdom manufactured goods a year.

The report says: "Anglophone Africa is now regarded as a priority area for French aid, with emphasis on tied Treasury loans in the form of mixed credit. Lines of credit have also been signed since 1980 with Malawi, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Sudan and Zimbabwe."

"The French Government has announced its intention to reach the 0.7 per cent (of gdp) as recommended by the United Nations target for aid by 1988 in respect of its aid to independent countries," the report says.

"This will require an annual increase in real terms of about 11 per cent a year. If this target is to be adhered to, a very considerable

increase in French aid may be expected over the next few years, with obvious implications for her competitors."

Mr Godwin's report states that Britain's aid as percentage of gdp in 1982 was just 0.38 per cent, although France had already increased its own to 0.48 per cent, to match with West Germany's, but below Holland's 1.08 per cent.

British aid was above Italy's 0.24 per cent level, Japan's 0.29 per cent and America's 0.27 per cent. But in dollar terms British aid was well below every country apart from The Netherlands and Italy.

The report in no way urges an increase in British aid. "We throw out that idea right away," Mr Godwin said, "because it was obviously not going to happen."

City Editor's Comment

Gatt broadside to recovery hopes

Amid all the talk of, and hope for, world economic recovery, it is sobering to see the latest annual report from the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. Not only is the volume of international trade expected to be static this year after falling by 2 per cent in 1982, but without widespread liberalization of trade policy Gatt does not see a significant improvement.

Put bluntly, the performance of world trade since 1980 has been the worst in 35 years. Certainly, external factors must share the blame. But one of the more obvious targets, oil prices and Opec, no longer deserves to be attacked so forcefully.

Oil prices have fallen in real terms and, as Gatt points out, Opec's trade surplus contracted by \$50,000m (£33,000m) last year to the point at which it vanished.

Nevertheless, in estimating that world production also fell by 2 per cent last year, Gatt implies that some responsibility for the lower level of world trade rests with external factors.

The link between trade and output is not so clearly symmetrical and, crucially, it is possible to argue that a recovery in production will stimulate trade and not necessarily vice versa.

But there can be no doubt that rising world trade would be a healthy sign, even if it is a necessary rather than a sufficient condition for international recovery. So it is most important that Gatt pins the blame for the increased protection which it sees as stifling trade fairly and squarely on government policy.

Contrary to common perception, protection began to creep back before worries about high unemployment were paramount.

So what propelled protection to the forefront? Gatt suggests that it is the logical outcome of greater government intervention in economies.

But the truth, surely, is more complicated. Not all governments are equally interventionist, and even if they do consider direction of some kind necessary, it does not follow that they support protection. South Africa, for example, interventionist to the point of dirigisme, is lifting exchange controls.

The problem is indirect. Bigger government becomes the source of favours, and therefore the object of pressure groups. Such groups invariably think, quite naturally, in terms of protecting jobs, industries and communities.

Governments, moreover, do have legitimate interests of their own. Only the most rigid free-trader would maintain that diplomacy is not the business of states.

Yet trade and diplomacy have been interwoven since the beginning of civilization. American posturing towards the Soviet Union is but the latest instance.

Gatt is therefore both correct and naive in calling for a new initiative by governments to turn back the protectionist tide.

The academic evidence provides a strong basis for arguing that allowing free movement of goods and the factors of production maximizes benefits.

But expecting governments to surrender their power is optimistic in the extreme.

IN BRIEF

● Broken Hill Proprietary, Australia's largest public company, has formally rejected a bid from Wiggins, the small tractor company controlled by Mr Robert Holmes & Court's Bell Group. Sir James McNeill, BHP's chairman, has promised to give fully the reasons for the predic-

table rejection of Wiggins' £2,400m bid later.

Yesterday BHP's shares jumped to A\$12.25 each, well above the A\$12 value of Wiggins' two-for-one offer. The jump in the BHP price followed news of an off-share oil find.

● UBM is expected to send its formal defence document against the £64m bid from Norcross to shareholders later this week.

● The Bank never comments on why it is taking away a licence.

● John Brown has disposed of its controlling interest in Tooling Products (Langrish), near Petersfield, Hampshire.

● The creditors' meeting of the failed investment advisers, Exchange Securities, which collapsed last April owing investors more than £25m, has been postponed.

● It was due to take place this month but an accountant Mr Stephen James, and the special manager called in by the Department of Trade and Industry to investigate, say that it has been put off because a group of investors are claiming that their funds were held in trust by Exchange Securities, the firm set up by the visiting financier, Mr Keith Hunt.

● "What has caused the delay is a query over the status of some 300 investors," Mr James said.

The Official Receiver will be investigating the investors' claim. Until it has been decided whether these investors are creditors, the creditors meeting cannot be held. The meeting must be held before the end of February 1984.

TATE & LYLE PLC

(Registered in England No. 76535)

1 for 4 Rights Issue

It was announced on 1st September, 1983 that the Directors are raising approximately £41 million by a 1 for 4 rights issue to holders of Ordinary Stock on the register at the close of business on 26th August, 1983 and to holders of Bearer Share Warrants.

Holders of Bearer Share Warrants who wish to claim their rights should note that relevant documents are available from The Secretary, Tate & Lyle PLC, Sugar Quay, Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6DQ during usual business hours on presentation of Coupon number 54. Holders applying by post should supply their name and address. Payment is due by 27th September, 1983.

By Order of the Board,
C. P. McFie,
Secretary.

Industrial notebook



The next move was persuading the Department of Industry to

where most industrialists tend to bend with the prevailing wind.

his name, which they had refused to do. But so far they have made

Tomorrow: The technician

of the body of knowledge being taught in 21 university business schools or departments

management as involving planning and forecasting, organizing and controlling, and the other associated with a range of research studies of what managers actually do at work. The two definitions conflict with one

John Snaith
The author has been teaching management for 13 years.

The author has been teaching management for 13 years.

مركزاً من الأصل

REA
TEA
GRC
ERICSSON

Electronic fraud risk worries the banks

By Rex Malik

Those open to computer fraud, particularly bankers, usually try to keep quiet about it. So the range of estimates of computer-related fraud in the United Kingdom is wide, from £30m to £2,500m a year.

Most of these estimates come from self-appointed experts seeking to sell security by first making the flesh creep. Reality, however, is that no one really knows what the figures are, and the banks and bankers, believing that they deal in confidence, prefer not to admit that any such crime exists.

They may be wise to keep quiet. For as Kevin Kearney, head of technical services at the Bank of International Settlements in Basle indicates, much of the opportunity for fraud is of the banks' own making.

Kearney, speaking at the annual Sperry Corporation press conference, was not only talking about fraud by bank employees or account holders directly or of fraud committed within the confines of one country. He was issuing a warning about crime possibilities over the high value international electronic payment networks which now link banks and the big financial institutions, where those attempting to mount a fraud could be anywhere in the world.

The sins of the bankers are those of omission rather than commission, and arise from the rapid development of these networks in the 1970s.

What is not generally realized is that these networks have huge daily turnovers: Kearney put the figure at more than \$300,000m a day.

In the early 1970s, the main international payments network linking Europe and the US was running at a few hundred transactions a day. It is now handling more than 70,000 with an average value for each transaction of \$2.5m.

And most of those transactions are finalized only in the last few minutes of the New York financial markets that dominate.

This, of course, raises many questions. At one level Kearney is concerned at the impact of this technology on the application of monetary policy by central banks. For much of the volatility of the international money markets comes from the existence of these networks, as does much of the profit in bank international dealings. The banks, it seems, have traded security for competitiveness, even if they will not admit it.

This can have unforeseen consequences. As Kearney puts it: "The fragility of the new payment

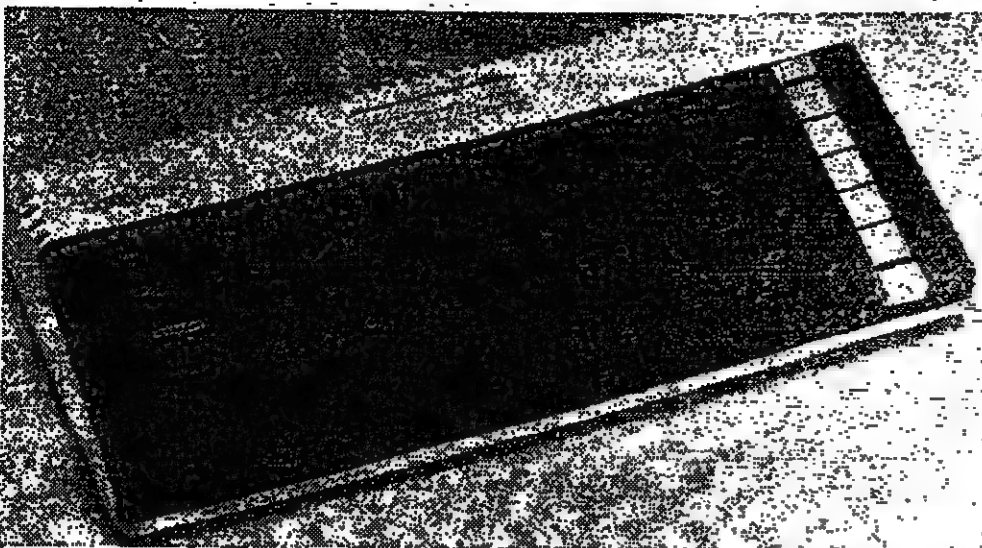
Continued on Page 18, col 4



The Times Classroom Computer competition

Next Tuesday Computer Horizons launches the first of 12 weekly Classroom Computer competitions for young people up to the age of 18. Every week there will be questions based on various aspects of computers, with a tie-breaker that will require imagination and originality.

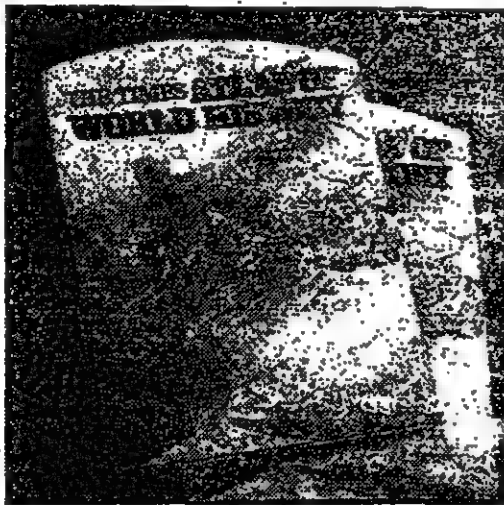
The competition will not need the use of a computer, but each week there will be a major prize of an Atari 600XL computer in two age groups for the school or college nominated by the entrants and 10 weekly individual prizes of The Times Atlas of World History.



24 Atari computers to be won - plus special prizes of The Times Atlas of World History

● The Atari 600XL computer - Atari's latest model - has a 16k RAM memory, expandable to 64k with a memory module, 24k ROM and software compatibility with other Atari home computers. Three integrated circuits control graphic display, sound generator and controller points, screen and input/output.

● The Times Atlas of World History has 360 pages containing 600 new maps and 300,000 words of narrative presenting history in the context of the places where it happened.



Clive Cookson on the effects of computers in schools

Where pupils outshine their teachers

The Government boasts that its programme to put microcomputers into Britain's schools is the best in the world. Every secondary school in the country now has at least one micro, as a result of the original Micros in Schools scheme which finished last year, and it looks as though virtually all 27,000 primary schools will have followed suit by the time the scheme ends next year.

Impressive results indeed. But they are mere dewdrops compared to the great thirst for computer time which is growing among Britain's schoolchildren. A single micro in a comprehensive school with 1,500 pupils gives each one an average of just three quarters of an hour at the keyboard every year.

Some schools do far better than that, of course. The most fortunate - private schools in particular - have invested in full-scale computer classrooms with a dozen or more micros connected in an educational network. The equipment for such a classroom costs over £10,000, and that needs a bold financial commitment by the school authorities or an energetic fund-raising campaign by parents.

But money is not the most important factor determining a school's commitment to classroom computers. What really matters is that there should be at least one teacher who is enthusiastic about education computing and who has the technical skill and energy to organize the hardware and software.

Unfortunately, such people are as scarce in schools as they are in other walks of life. Most teachers are as nervous and ignorant about computers as the general adult population, and they have not been helped by the poor provision for in-service microcomputer training.

Training 'the envy of the world'

Nor is the self-confidence of some teachers helped by the fact that they are so obviously slower than their most enthusiastic pupils at mastering the machine. Computing is perhaps the educational field in which children can most readily outperform adults.

The effort by the Department of Trade and Industry to install educational hardware through the various Micros in Schools schemes is matched by the Department of Education and Science's campaign to make good software available through the Microelectronics Education Programme (MEP).

John Coll, who was appointed last month to head a new educational software unit within the MEP, said then: "The Microelectronics Education Programme has produced software and training materials for use by teachers and their pupils that are the envy of the world". However many independent experts maintain that there is an acute shortage of good educational computer programs worldwide, Britain included.

A recent report published by the Social Science Research Council called the production of schools software "a cottage industry" that had little idea of how children learn. And it is certainly true that many of the programs use in schools today are written by enthusiastic teachers in their spare time because the material available commercially is so inadequate.

A new 'window' on software

Digital Research, one of the two American software giants that have dominated the development of operating systems for business microcomputers, last week announced its entry into the consumer market.

The Californian company has set up a consumer products division to sell software for cheap home and educational computers. This will include not only development tools and operating systems for micro manufacturers but also programs that users can buy at home computer shops for practical applications.

DR's consumer products do not depend on its own CP/M family of operating systems. They will run on the proprietary systems of manufacturers like Apple and Tandy and even on the MS-DOS created by Microsoft, its arch-

rival. (Meanwhile Microsoft is making its own attack on the consumer market. Both companies play up their competition for all it is worth in terms of publicity.)

The consumer strategy is based on three new products: the Visual Information Processor (VIP), a software development tool; Personal CP/M, an operating system; and Dr. Logo, a programming language.

VIP lets the programmer write software with "windows" and other adjustable display areas on the screen. For example, the picture shows a set of VIP filing

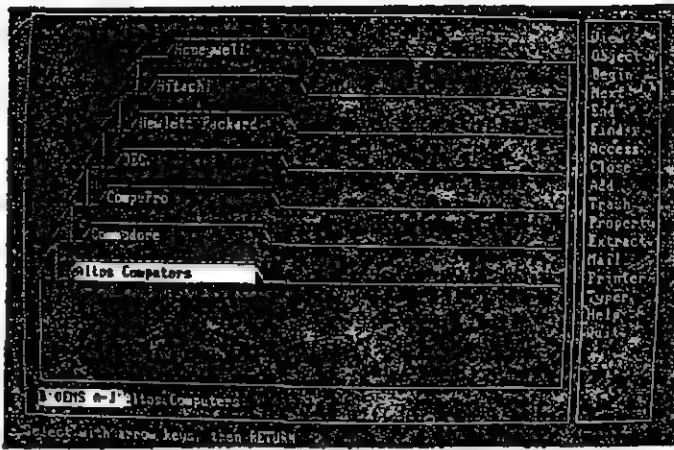
cabinet "drawers" which the user pulls out to get at the "files" within. Finally he opens a file to find the document on which he wants to work.

VIP follows the industry's trend towards integrated software. Several application programs which use the same data can share the same visual interface. For instance, the user can work on data in a filing system and then draw it into a letter being composed on a separate word processing program. Digital Research claims that this feature has so far been available only on more expensive computer systems.

Personal CP/M is a version of the standard Digital Research operating system, designed for home computers. It can be contained on a ROM (read only memory) chip and is therefore suitable for cheap micros that do not have a disc drive.

Dr. Logo is an enhanced version of Logo, the popular educational programming language, with "turtle" graphics. The turtle, a triangular pointer, leaves a coloured trail on the screen as the user moves it around.

Digital Research has enjoyed a significant revival of confidence since early summer, when some articles in the computer and business press gave the impression that Microsoft had left DR trailing in the battle to become the world's number one



How the filing cabinet is represented on the screen

microcomputer software company. Operating systems as a whole are only a small market compared to consumer applications software. DR and Microsoft will have to win significant shares of that

market if they are to emerge as real corporate giants. Remember that for all the publicity they have managed to attract, each still has worldwide revenues below £50m a year.

Learning behind the lace curtains

By Frank Brown

This week sees the launch of a project which could raise the general level of computer literacy. It is the first English-language part-work on home computing.

Already on the news stands in the Anglia TV region and advertised on the regional TV channel, is the first issue of "The Home Computer Course", a weekly part-work which, over the next 23 weeks, will give its readers a basic grounding in home computers at a cost of 80p an issue.

The new part-work is produced jointly by Orbis, the international part-work publishing house, and Bunch Books, a fast-growing publisher of hobby and leisure magazines. It will be available nationally by the end of next week, with an initial print run of more than half a million copies.

The project has two main aims, according to Peter Brooksmith, new projects manager at Orbis. "One is to demystify computers and dispel the fears many people have about them. The other is to help buyers of home computers get value for money out of them in terms of usage as soon as possible."

Galling truth

"Basically, it is a programming course interspersed with features that explain the various elements of a computer system, and how they are used. Each issue will examine a particular computer in detail and explain the functions of its various components."

"Many people buy home computers thinking they can use them more or less straightaway, only to find they can't understand the instruction manual. They turn to the various home computer magazines and find they can't understand them, either. The thing is all the more galling when they see schoolkids using them so confidently and so proficiently."

Collaboration between Bunch and Orbis arose through coincidence. Both were working on schemes to produce a home computer part-work and were introduced to each other by a media consultant only in April.

Since then the two firms have worked seven days a week to be the first in the field. At least two other firms are thought to be working on similar projects.

In common with other part works, the Home Computer Course has been designed so that it can be readily adapted for sale in other countries and other languages.

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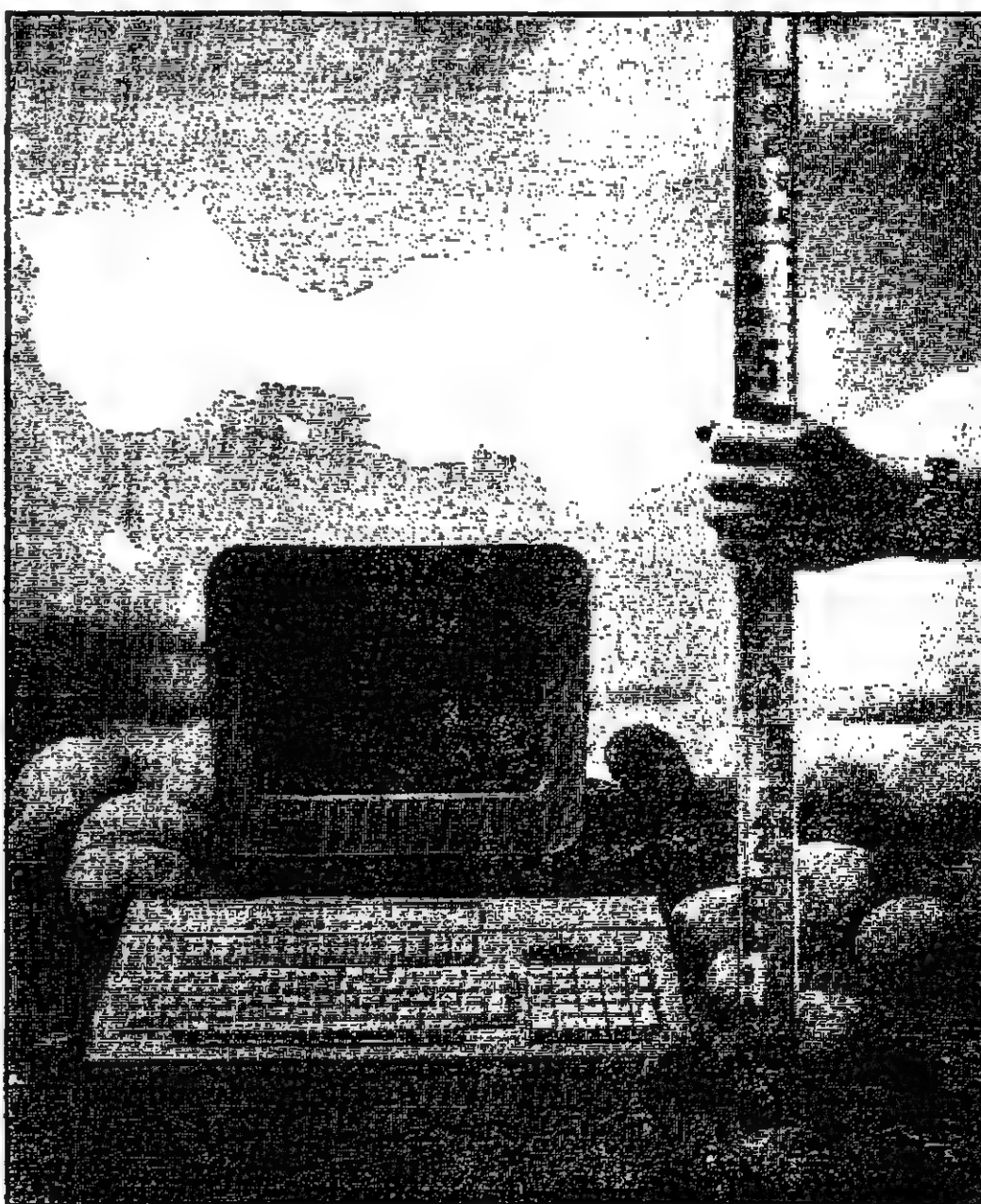
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- (1) a good track record in all stages of systems design and implementation;
- (2) experience with systems of varying sizes and capacities;
- (3) good communications skills (oral and written);
- (4) in addition, it will be an advantage if the successful candidate has a knowledge of one or more of the following specialist computer application areas:

- (i) telecommunications;
- (ii) local area networks;
- (iii) word processing;
- (iv) information retrieval;
- (v) accounting;
- (vi) catering industry.

This is a permanent appointment until December 1987. Salary will be in the range £11,329 to £13,768 p.a. including £1,250 London weighting. There will be at least 5 weeks leave a year. There is a non-contributory pension scheme with interchange arrangements with other Public Service pension schemes.

For further details and application form write or phone: REF 29/58, ESTABLISHMENTS OFFICE, HOUSE OF COMMONS, LONDON SW1A 0AA (Telephone 01 219 5544 Answering Service) Closing date for completed applications 30 September 1983

A fourth-generation language

Talking English to the computer

By Philip Manchester

With the success of such products as Visicalc - a sort of pocket financial planner - the microcomputer has graduated in the last two years from being a toy to a useful tool.

The key has been the microcomputer's ability to provide a "personal" computing service which is accessible to the non-technical user. The essence of personal computing is in how useful a computer is rather than in the trappings of technology.

Personal computing is not new. It had its origins in the early 1970s when, for the first time, interactive terminals enabled people to use computers directly rather than through a specialist data processing department. Since then tremendous effort has been invested by the major computer manufacturers in developing a distributed processing system to extend this facility. In the end, however, it is the software that matters.

IBM has approached this problem two ways. The best known is through the medium of a programming language called APL. Devised in the 1960s by Ken Iverson, APL has attracted a growing following. It has re-

mained, however, very much the province of the professional who wishes to use the computer rather than having to spend most of the time programming it.

IBM's other route to providing accessible computing to non-programmers was developed in the UK, and is called Application System (AS).

Until this year, AS was locked up inside IBM and was offered only to customers through its timesharing bureau service based in Warwick. Tony Temple, the IBM man in charge of developing AS, sees the recent announcement by IBM that it will now sell the product as a software package as the beginning of a new era in computing.

"AS is built to hide the operating system and the hardware architecture from the user. It has been very hard to do this but we feel that it has largely been achieved," he said. Whilst acknowledging that microcomputers have helped to bring the issue of accessibility into the open, he sees them as limited compared with AS.

"It is different to microcomputers used for personal computing which tend to be very much oriented to a specific application. AS is a data processing system with integrated business applications. Micros are personal rather than shared which makes it difficult for many different applications to use shared data. Centralized machines have many advantages such as mass storage and disciplined standards and practices."

Here Temple touches on an argument that is crucial to the future development of computing - whether it will progress towards "cutting up" large machines for use by lots of people through terminals, or towards sticking lots of small computers together in a network.

Either way, AS would seem to offer something to the frustrated computer user. One method of gaining access in future will be through the IBM personal computer acting as a terminal. Temple's group set about developing an interface between the existing programmes and devising a common language which could be applied to all of them. "From the feedback that we got from customers, it confirmed what we believed - that we needed a fourth generation language," Temple said.

ASAP



An all-round look at optical discs

Is this the swan-song of our dear old LP?

Three different kinds of optical discs are being built for video, audio and computer applications. The discs look similar, and use the same method of storing information in holes in thin metal films covered by protective layers of plastic.

A laser is focused on the metal film to detect information stored by the presence or absence of holes. Because the holes are so close together (about 4,000 to the inch) large amounts of information can be packed into small areas.

Replaying causes no wear because there is no physical contact and the laser beam is so spread out that it scarcely affects the disc. However, there are substantial differences between the discs which make each suitable for distinctly different applications.

The Dutch firm Philips have been the driving force in the introduction of all three of these discs, while United Kingdom firms have scarcely been involved.

THE VIDEO DISC is already on the market, under the name Laservision, and is used for replaying video programs on a normal TV set. About an to an hour and a half's play is available from each disc and a great advantage over video tape is the non-degradability of the disc. The gradual loss of quality of a video tape, caused by the rubbing of the detector heads on the surface of the tape, does not occur with the video disc. The interactive video disc can

also find and display a freeze-frame of any one of the approximately 50,000 pictures in a fraction of a second.

Unfortunately there are a number of problems which make its success in the marketplace doubtful. The first is that the domestic market has been cornered by the video cassette recorder (VCR), which has the overwhelming advantage that the consumer can record on to the tape. Coupled with its three-hour playing length, the VCR is now in an unassailable position for home use. Furthermore, the video disc is unsatisfactory for most computer-based archival storage applications, because the picture storage is analogue and the customer cannot record on it.

The market that remains for this equipment is therefore mainly in shops and business equipment. The video disc could be used to store parts lists, for computer assisted teaching or to demonstrate equipment in shops, all applications where non-degradability and quick access are powerful advantages over video tape.

For the equipment to succeed in any application at least several hundred discs must be manufactured, the discs must not require updating very often, and analogue, rather than digital, storage must be satisfactory.

Philips were the first to issue the equipment in the United Kingdom, although similar machines had been sold and then withdrawn by RCA in the United States. Japanese firms are now,

somewhat hesitantly, following Philips' lead with equipment compatible with Laservision. All in all, with the domestic market lost, the future does not look too bright for the video disc, because the niche that remains may be too small for such big fish.

THE 12 cm-diameter digital AUDIO DISC is the smallest of the trio (hence the alternative name compact disc) and is intended to replace the long playing record.

Standards have been agreed between all the major hi-fi manufacturers and so there is no prospect of a return of the standards fiasco which ruined the introduction of quadrophonic records.

The one-hour long discs, costing £8 to £10, are played on a machine which plugs directly into existing home hi-fi units. The prime motivation (besides profit) for the introduction is to improve the sound of quality produced. Hiss, rumble and distortion from disc or player are essentially eliminated and high frequencies faithfully reproduced to the limit of human hearing.

The "silver disc" does not degrade with time and can be handled, washed and cleaned without the worry of spoiling the sound. Access to any part of the disc can be obtained rapidly with a remote controller and the resistance to damage of the disc may herald the return of the once despised record autograph.

The overall result is a cleaner sound from the hi-fi system, with no distortion or interference from

the record or record-player. This clarity shows up problems in other parts of the chain that bring music from the musician into the home. Poor technique in the recording studio is now glaringly obvious, no longer hidden under the audio mush produced by "black discs". British record producers in particular will have to pull their socks up in quality control to succeed in selling audio discs.

The compact disc was released in March to a rapturous reception from critics and its success is not in doubt. The long-playing record will suffer the fate of the old 78rpm disc, and be eliminated as hi-fi equipment is replaced.

Compact disc players start from £450 and are in limited supply, so demand will be restrained for some months, but cut-throat competition from Taiwan and Singapore will soon put an end to the snugness of the small circle of firms presently producing players. The equipment, in mass production, is no more complicated than a cassette recorder and so prices of players, and to a lesser extent records, should drop dramatically.

THE third optical disc is the DIGITAL RECORDING version, intended for use as a computer peripheral and for office document storage. I shall discuss this in a later issue.

Richard Stevens

Dr. Stevens is an image processing scientist.

Why the risks are increasing for the world's banks

Continued from Page 17 col 1 jeopardizes the ability of the banking and financial communities to adjust to changes in monetary policy, making such policy more difficult to effect."

As worrying, however, are the problems of security and crisis resiliency. For these electronic funds transfer networks were not devised with such huge volumes in mind, yet are changing the practices of international banking at a fundamental level, something which most banks have been slow to appreciate.

Banking had evolved very slowly over hundreds of years until the computer and Electronic Fund Transfer networks came along. Now EFT is a very

different medium for bankers to operate in: it is not pen and paper with the checks and balances of 400 years built in. It was best summed up by an Italian banker, Renzo de Mattia, who coined what are now known as de Mattia's laws of EFT.

"The constraints of time, distance, volume and value do not apply to Electronic Funds Transfer systems."

Kearney discussed some of the key characteristics of these international EFT Network systems.

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● They are very efficient, and this is part of the problem. We now have the ability to move funds rapidly to or away from

stood their former paper and telex systems.

● Ignorance also reigns at a different level. Neither bankers nor their regulators are generally aware of the risks to which they are exposed.

● These systems are not generally governed by risk allocation conventions, agreements or insurance. Similarly they are not governed by a body of law designed specifically to deal with these issues. There is in other words only minimal international agreement on what action to take if something goes seriously wrong.

● Procedures for unwinding settlements over these systems if a participant cannot cover a debit

have not been tested. In the end, the risk if the failure is large may well be that of the central bank's.

Kearney believes it is only a matter of time, and perhaps not much of it, before something goes seriously wrong. And it may be an honest mistake that sets it off, or it may be fraud.

Kearney should have the last word. He told how a central bank governor put his arm around his shoulders and congratulated him and his colleagues for their outstanding work in the creation of these high value EFT networks. And then in the next breath, he said that they should all be shot for not telling the banks at the beginning about some of the possible consequences.

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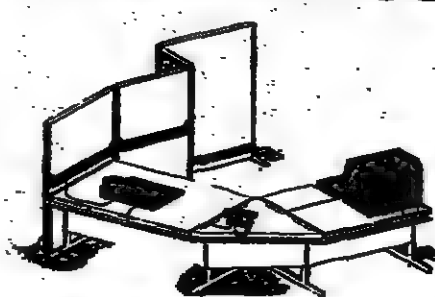
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INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

Liberated rand off to a good start

Liberating the South African rand from the plethora of exchange controls will take several years, if one's reading of the official South African character is right. But Pretoria will be pleased that yesterday's trading passed off quietly.

On its first day free from a Reserve Bank rate, the rand closed where it had opened at about R1.13 to the dollar - helped perhaps by the authorities choosing Labour Day for the launch. Holders of rand probably also took covering positions in advance.

But the new rules are a far cry from the days up to the beginning of 1980, when the rand was pegged at 1.15 to the dollar. While the Reserve Bank has said that it will manage the exchange rate during the transition to a market under the bank, the aim is to have the rand floating more or less freely by the end of 1984.

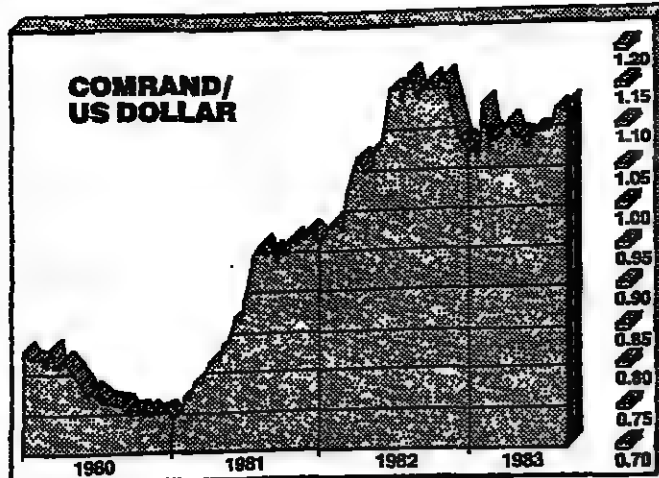
The immediate beneficiaries are those indispensable props of the country's economy, the gold mines. They will now be paid in dollars by the Reserve Bank for their production. At the same time, the bank will stop quoting its "guiding" exchange rate.

Just as important for the plan to create an independent foreign exchange market in South Africa is that to allow the mines to sell forward, for up to a year, part of their income from gold. At the moment they can only hedge gold sales, as disburse from currency, although they do deal in money markets - for example, to cover foreign dividend payments.

On the other side of the operation are the dealers rather than the earners. Exchange rate cover for the banks and other authorized foreign exchange dealers in the form of forward contracts with the Reserve Bank will be replaced by swaps to cover forward positions.

The authorities will do everything they can to smooth the transition from a regulated market, but there is no doubt that they expect commercial businesses to take the initiative in developing the new market. The authorities prefer a gradually appreciating rand.

Given the volume and importance of foreign investment in South Africa, the prospect of a rand exposed to the full gale of international currency markets might seem daunting. Much



depends on the gold price and on political confidence. But the South Africans have embarked on a course few other countries appear willing to follow.

Simon Engineering

Simon Engineering
Half-year
Pretax profit £7.4m (£7.6m)
Stated earnings 17.3p (18.3p)
Turnover £169.4m (£162.2m)
Net interm dividend 4p (same)
Share price 385p down 10p Yield 2.96%

Simon Engineering has continued to weather the recession which has ravaged the rest of British engineering, with its remarkably successful combination of tight cost control and quick attention to problem areas.

Although interim pretax profits fell slightly from £7.6m to £7.4m compared with the same period last year on a turnover down from £162.2m to £159.4m, the shortfall is easily explained by the lost contribution from Simon-Warman which was sold at a healthy profit last year.

The successful formula has been applied again by the Simon board with the decision to close its Canadian process plant, converting subsidiary, at a cost of £900,000. This will be charged to the second half figures.

However, Simon's caution about the modest nature of the upturn in world economies which it depends upon for its process

plant orderbook, is a word of warning for investors across the engineering contracting sector where Davy International and Dowty also operate.

If Simon is unlikely to match last year's final pretax profits of £20.6m then which but for a crop of bad results from its rivals.

On the good side, the company has a negative gearing, if cash balances are included, and will continue to have a strong balance sheet if the agreed £22m takeover of Drake & Scull, the revamped electrical and mechanical engineering group, goes through.

The takeover terms have to be approved by shareholders at an extraordinary meeting on September 19.

The merger will bring Drake & Scull opportunities to work on larger contracts with Simon, while the two groups will be able to work together on smaller British projects more efficiently, using Drake's regional centres.

This market was previously unattractive to Simon because of the high costs of mobilizing its operation to meet specific contract needs.

Simon has already picked up a 13.8 per cent stake in Drake Scull through the market and the proposed merger should go through.

Simon's order book could also be transformed if it wins a £180m share of a huge project to build a chemicals plant in Indonesia. Negotiations are well advanced and could be resolved by the end of September.

At 385p, down 10p, the shares are a strong bet for recovery with

the benefits of cost cutting, and the Drake & Scull merger expected to show through next year.

Australian oil

Australia is alive to the sound of oil wells again. After repeated disappointments - not least on the vaunted North West Shelf - which is almost certainly a major strike has been made in an offshore area so remote that its ownership is a long-running matter of dispute with Indonesia.

The effect on the share prices of those companies lucky enough to have a stake is wonderful.

Jabiru. One is on block NT/P26, about two days from Darwin, itself not one of the world's most accessible spots. Its minimum reserves are put at 100 million barrels, but the farm-out documents suggest that they are probably 335 million and possibly 540 million. The document, written last year, adds "It is big and has the potential to be a giant."

Another five wells have been drilled on the block and, possibly more important, drilling will recommence later this year on another block not far away, NT/P27. Oil was discovered in the Puffin wells drilled there in January, and there are reasonable hopes that commercial quantities will be discovered on there as well.

The oil business being what it is, share stakes are fragmented and many. But the broad breakdown of the big shareholders in NT/P26 is: BHP 50 per cent, Ampol Exploration 6.25, Weeks Petroleum 10.3, and Occidental, the American company headed by Dr Armand Hammer, 18.7.

The share prices are as follows: BHP A510 to A512.35; Consolidated Petroleum 23 cents to 25; Weeks Petroleum £2.80 to £3.70; Ampol A33 to A34; and Hartog Energy, which has an indirect interest, A53.15 to A53.50.

The corresponding figures for wells about to be drilled on NT/P27 are: BHP 28.4 per cent, Ampol 8.7, Consolidated Petroleum 8.5, Weeks Australia 12.3, Weeks Petroleum 8, EBF Acquisition 12.9 and Occidental 14.6.

Oil exploration is replete with disappointment, and it would be unnatural if the companies' shares were not depressed soon by profit-taking.

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Faldo out to stay the course

Faldo: best man no more

Nick Faldo has decided he will play in the Swiss Open golf championship at Crans-sur-Sierre starting on Thursday. As a result, he will not be able to undertake his duties as best man at the wedding of his brother-in-law, Steve Rockall, in St Albans on Saturday.

Faldo was intending to rest this week in preparation for the start in the next two months. His wife, Melanie Rockall, said: "It was one of the most difficult decisions he has ever had to make. But, after working so hard to achieve what he has this season, he would kick himself if missing this one event cost him his place at the top of the order of merit. Someone else in the family will take over as best man. Golf had to come first."

After finishing runner-up in the European Open at Sunningdale yesterday, Faldo felt his position at the top of the money list was less certain than it was a few days ago. He was beaten by Severine Ballestrero of Spain, who is also playing in Switzerland, finished first second with Faldo after a last round of 64 and is now less than £20,000 behind him, a gap he could erase completely by winning this week.

After the tournament, Faldo spent almost a hour discussing the problem with his wife, John Simpson, his manager, and Ken Schofield, the European tour director, before requesting a night's sleep to think over the matter. Schofield had to relax the rules to allow this.

Faldo, 26, has never topped the money list in seven years as a professional and Simpson estimates it would be worth more than £250,000 next season in appearance money, endorsements and the like for him to achieve it this year.

Gallacher award

Bernard Gallacher, the West-Scottish professional who is hoping to make his eighth successive appearance in the Ryder Cup next month, has been chosen White Horse golf personality for August.

ROWING
Gleam of silver not enough to save British embarrassment

By Jim Keenan

With few exceptions, the British performances in the eleven world championships last week were painful to observe. The men's lightweight with two silver medals, lifted Britain to fourth in the world rankings. The silver medal of John Melvin in the single sculls was a marvellous performance, and the coxless fours silver was a bonus, but there is no more than a gleam of silver in the Olympic regatta next year on Lake Casitas, California.

It would also be a waste of time and money sending more of the British men's heavyweight and women's crews to Los Angeles as they stand. Next year should have been one for consolidating, but there has to be some luster, rebuilding, and before that demolition is required without a slow fuse. Britain will have to learn to pull together.

It has been suggested that the British team has too many chiefs and too few Indians. In many cases, it is sadly and simply a case of the new coach's inexperience. It is incredible to think that the New Zealand crew took four and eight, who won two gold medals on Sunday, raced for the first time this season in the heats last week. They did not arrive in the stage. A new philosophy is required quickly, a big chief with many feathers to concentrate for Los Angeles on a chosen few who will give all without reservation, unless, of course, Great Britain is happy to remain an embarrassment at the top level.

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Investors in Industry

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Due to expansion of the Company, our Client, Tidewater Oil Corporation, wishes to recruit a young Commercial Lawyer with oil industry experience to join the Legal Department. The successful applicant will be a Solicitor or Barrister, in mid to late twenties, with experience of joint venture and oil exploration work gained preferably in the oil industry. Salary up to £20,000 (depending on age and experience) plus car, and other benefits.

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Leading supplier of helicopters and allied products and services seeks a young lawyer for their Group Legal Department. The company's lawyers work closely with Directors and senior executives in all matters, but with an emphasis on export contracts involving negotiations in the U.K. and abroad.

A commercially minded lawyer, 2-8 years qualified with a constructive approach and robust personality who is a mature and confident decision maker, prepared for foreign travel and having an interest in high technology products will find this a rewarding career opportunity.

The post carries a negotiable salary plus a car and other benefits and is situated in an attractive part of the West Country. Assistance with relocation expenses will be available if appropriate.

Applications quoting ref. RM/C78 in writing or by telephone to Robert Simkin Limited, 26-28 Bedford Row, London, WC1R 4HE. Tel. 01-405 6852. Telex 894066.

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SALARY c.£6,000 per annum

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1. ASSISTANT SOLICITOR OR LEGAL EXECUTIVE to assist the Litigation Partner in general litigation matters in their rapidly expanding litigation department. Two years litigation experience essential. May suit newly qualified solicitor or Member or Fellow of Institute of Legal Executives.

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C.V. in each case please to Staff Partner
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The Government Legal Service offers Lawyers a unique range of career options covering virtually every aspect of the law. An uncommonly high level of responsibility at an early stage is a feature of the work in any of the following areas:

Advisory

Because the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is a leading European Department, its work is heavily involved with EEC Law as well as domestic Law. Lawyers provide general advice on common agricultural policy, food, animal health and welfare, agricultural tenure and the environmental aspects of farming. They also draft subordinate legislation.

Lawyers in the Departments of the Environment and Transport advise on a wide range of matters, not simply on the legislation for which the Departments are responsible. They need to master and interpret complex legislation and consider the wider issues which may arise, relating not only to existing law but to the need for and possible content of new legislation.

In the Department of Trade and Industry lawyers with an interest in developing commercial law provide comprehensive advice and services including negotiating issues of commercial, administrative, domestic, EEC and international law. These include advice on legislation concerning companies, securities, insurance, bankruptcy, competition, consumer protection, and external trade, as well as the Department's relations with private and nationalised industry.

Advisory and Litigation

Lawyers in the Inland Revenue Solicitor's Office provide a comprehensive advisory and litigation service. Casework involves a wide variety of problems in the fields of general common law and equity as well as statute law and specialist taxation subjects. There are good opportunities for advocacy before appeal tribunals and the lower courts. Previous revenue law experience is not necessary, but a good background of general law is important.

Charity Law and Trust Administration

Lawyers within the Charity Commission advise with charity trustees and their legal advisers over matters arising from charity administration. Sound knowledge of Trust Law and the basic principles of conveyancing will be essential. Based Liverpool or London.

Conveyancing

Her Majesty's Land Registry carries out its initial examination of transferred titles to freehold and leasehold land in England and Wales, gives effect to subsequent changes on sale, mortgage or lease and deals with the technical problems which may arise. A knowledge of conveyancing is required together with an interest in Real Property Law. Posts are in Central London, Croydon (SE London), Durham and Weymouth.

Criminal Law

The Home Office Criminal Injuries Compensation Board has a supporting staff of administrators and lawyers, who administer a Scheme for awarding compensation to victims of crimes of violence. The legal work requires lawyers of good general ability with a capacity for hard work and a marked interest in advocacy.

General Law

Legal opportunities in the Lord Chancellor's Department are in the following areas:

Headquarters Office

... to help provide wide-ranging advice on the exercise of Ministerial responsibility, to help prepare and process law reform, to help correspond with government departments, MPs, the public and other interested parties on legal points of difficulty, and to help administer the Supreme Court and county courts. A good law degree would be an advantage.

Criminal Appeal Office

... to prepare summaries for all cases reaching the Court of Criminal Appeal. Some lawyers have the opportunity to sit as Registrars in court; all have contact with judges, counsel and solicitors.

Lawyers in the Welsh Office are of all round ability and deal with an exceptionally wide range of legal matters in relation to Wales, including Health Service Conveyancing and Litigation, Bill work, the drafting of subordinate legislation and the giving of advice on Education, Housing, Local Government, Water, Transport and Highways, Town and Country Planning and Industrial problems. Based at Cardiff.

Prosecution

Lawyers working with the Director of Public Prosecutions advise Chief Constables and government departments on criminal matters, prepare cases for criminal trial in Crown Courts and undertake some advocacy work in Magistrates' Courts in England and Wales. Previous experience of criminal law will be an advantage.

Lawyers with the Department of Health and Social Security advise on, prepare and conduct criminal prosecution proceedings and civil recovery cases. Commitments and appeals in Crown Courts are also dealt with. Advocacy experience, preferably in criminal courts, essential. After initial training in London, post will be in Sutton, Surrey.

You must be admitted (or about to be) or called in England and should preferably have recent relevant practical experience. Most appointments are at Legal Assistant level but there are some Senior Legal Assistant posts available for candidates (aged at least 27) of marked ability and potential.

LEGAL ASSISTANTS £8,590 - £14,770; starting salary up to £11,680 depending on age. Promotion to SLA could come after one year for those with at least 3 years previous professional experience.

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For further details and an application form (to be returned by 30 September 1983) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref C(B)3762.

Solicitor or Legally Qualified Person - Client Relations/ Enquiry and Investigation

An appointment is offered to a Solicitor or other appropriately legally qualified person who wishes to pursue his or her career in the area of public relations and has an interest in enquiry and investigations into problems and difficulties as they arise. We have a small Client Relations Department which deals with all aspects of "public and customer relations". The Department has referred to it all problems relating to such matters, and deals with in-depth investigations into difficulties as they arise.

Please apply to: Mrs. Suzanne Traynor, Staff Controller
Dumford Ford Solicitors
(Administration Division), 12 Havelock Road, Hastings
Tel: Hastings (0424) 434363

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are looking for Solicitors and Legal Executives to work in the following departments with a view to assisting in coping with a rapidly expanding workload:

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Solicitors with up to two years admitted experience in most facets of company / commercial law but with bias towards banking and related work and corporate and joint venture work.

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Solicitors with up to two years admitted experience to assist Partners in two conveyancing departments in all aspects of commercial property law including a substantial volume of security work.

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(i) A Solicitor or legal executive with relevant experience to deal with the residential conveyancing work of one of the firm's conveyancing departments; a substantial amount of flat "break up" work will be involved.

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It is the policy of the firm to pay top salaries which are reviewed bi-annually.

Applications with accompanying curriculum vitae should apply to Ms. Frances Work, Grangewoods, 1 Harley Street, London W.1.

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COWARD CHANCE invite applications from solicitors with some years experience in the commercial property field to join their Property Department. The department handles a wide range of institutional and other work. There are excellent salaries and prospects.

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COWARD CHANCE

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The salary will be within the scale £8,364 - £13,956 p.a. with the entry point depending on qualifications and experience. Normal annual increments are £540.

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We consider ourselves to be the most progressive firm of solicitors in the Greater London area. To sustain the progress and development of the last 5 years, we need to add persons of quality to our existing team of dedicated partners and staff. The following positions must be filled to cope with our increased workload:

- (A) Senior Litigation Assistant - qualified/unqualified.
- (B) Senior Probate/Conveyancing Assistant - qualified/unqualified.
- (C) Junior Litigation/Criminal Assistant.

Ability, energy, initiative and enthusiasm are the essential qualifications. If you have these, please write with full CV to: Ref. C. P. T. Cornish & Co., 410 Cranbrook Road, Ilford, Essex.

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With at least two years' first-class Company/Commercial City experience in private practice, required by expanding Holborn firm. Excellent salary and prospects. Please write to Richard Charnley, Blyth Dutton, 9 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3DW.

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Clerk / Solicitor / Secretary £8,000 - £9,500 inclusive. Telephone 01-899 4411. Reference 01-18, Alan J. M. Baldwin Clerk to the Justices.

MAIDENHEAD SOLICITORS require experienced solicitor for the firm. £10,000 - £12,000 p.a. Apply with CV to Box 11298H The Times.

ASA LAW LOCUMS CEN. Practice solicitor in London. Practice in London & Home Counties 01-625 8725.

Questions which must be answered about the destruction of Flight 007

By Staff Reporters

Many questions remain unanswered about the shooting down of the Korean Boeing 747 airliner. Here we set out possible answers.

Could the Russians have mistaken the Korean Boeing 747 for the American RC135?

The Americans say there was never any scope for confusion. They maintain that the RC135 was never in contact with the Korean airliner and was 1,000 miles away from the crash site and never entered Soviet airspace. Another report suggests, however, that at an earlier stage the two aircraft may have been within about 300 miles of each other.

The physical differences between the 747 and the RC135, which is derived from the Boeing 707, are considerable. The wingspan of the 747, at about 195ft, is 50ft greater than the RC135, and it is 50 per cent longer than the RC135. The 747 is also easily distinguished by the hump in the top of its fuselage.

What is the pattern of US air surveillance of the Kamchatka peninsula and Sakhalin?

American RC135 reconnaissance aircraft regularly carry out missions in international airspace over the northern Pacific, but they do not enter Soviet airspace, Pentagon officials said.

The main purpose is to collect information about Soviet radar systems and to monitor communications between Soviet jet pilots and ground controllers. They also observe the final stages of the test flights of Soviet intercontinental ballistic missiles to verify whether they are honouring arms control agreements with the US.

Was contact by voice possible between the Soviet fighters and the Korean airliner?

American officials say there was no contact between the Korean jumbo and the Soviet fighters on the RC135. One reason for there being no voice contact between the Soviet and Korean pilots, according to American sources, is that Soviet fighters are not fitted with radios with which they can make contact with third parties. This is intended to make defection by Soviet pilots more difficult.

Why are the Russians so sensitive about what might have been discovered by a spy-plane flying over Sakhalin?

One theory being advanced in London yesterday was that the Russians may have been concerned because the aircraft had flown close to one very important base, at Petropavlovsk on the east coast of Kamchatka, and feared that it was heading in the direction of another, at Vladivostok.

Petropavlovsk is a nuclear submarine base, and is the nerve centre for the Soviet military build-up against Japan, which wants the return of the nearby Kuril Islands, which have been occupied by the Soviet Union since the Second World War.

The area may also provide forward bases for the Russian Backfire bombers. It is strategically important because unlike Vladivostok it is ice-free and offers direct access to the sea of Okhotsk and the Pacific Ocean. Vladivostok is the headquarters of the Soviet Far East fleet, and is a huge naval base.

It is suggested that though by no means unimportant, Sakhalin is less significant than either Vladivostok or Petropavlovsk.

On Sakhalin the Russians have four or possibly five air bases, with both air defence and strike aircraft and probably maritime patrol aircraft, there are thought to be about two army divisions stationed there, naval patrol craft, and important radar and intelligence gathering installations.

Generally, the Soviet Union is very sensitive about the surveillance of the Kamchatka Peninsula because it serves as a target zone for Soviet missile and other tests. How did the Korean jumbo, with its sophisticated navigation systems, manage to stray 300 miles off course?

Experts are inclined to put the plane's wanderings down to crew carelessness. The three navigation systems are simple and virtually foolproof. After 500 miles the aircraft should be within a mile of the course pre-set by the crew through the aircraft's computers. These inertial navigation systems, which measure acceleration ahead or to left or right, are so accurate that one took America's space-shuttle to the moon.

The Boeing 747 has three working independently. The crew can take an average of what the three say. There is unlikely to be a disparity of 10 miles between them, never mind 300, after the flight from Anchorage to Sakhalin.

The only explanation experts could come up with yesterday was that the crew were so confused by the wrong course into the system. But they plot course by typing not one but a series of "way-points" into the computer.

Such way-points occur every few hundred miles, so even if one were wrong, the next should put aircraft back on course. Moreover, there is a self-correcting mechanism to prevent misalignments, and the track calculations are subject to checks both by the flight crew and between them and ground staff. Experts yesterday

remained totally mystified as to what went wrong.

"It must have been carelessness of some kind rather than failure of the system," one said, "but just what form the carelessness took is difficult to fathom."

Was the flight being monitored from the ground, and if so why was it not warned?

The aircraft would have been under air traffic control of Anchorage to the half-way point, then handed over to Tokyo. But control in these wide open spaces is exercised entirely through the aircraft's own reports of its position, since no radar penetrates there. Nor is there any independent check by radio navigation as would be the case when flying across friendly, populated territory such as Europe or the United States.

The jet would have flown out of civil radar surveillance about 200 miles from Anchorage, and flown into it again about 200 miles from Hokkaido. It may have just been appearing on the edge of Japanese screens when it went down and the Japanese controllers may have been looking out for it.

But they would have been looking in the wrong place if they accepted the aircraft's own assessment of its position. Russia provides civil air traffic control on accepted routes across Russia - Moscow to Tokyo, Moscow to India - but there would be none where this aircraft came down.

Obviously, the jumbo appeared on Russian military radar because they sent up fighters to intercept. An aviation expert said yesterday: "In a sensible world someone in Russian control would have picked up a phone to Japan and asked: 'Have you lost an aircraft?'"

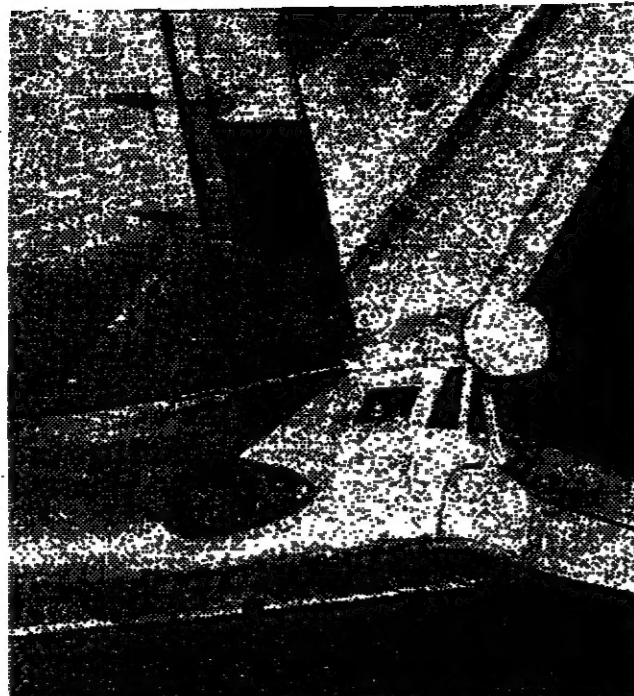
The first that most people in the West knew about spy planes was when Francis Gary Powers, piloting his supersonic U2 on a clandestine intelligence mission high above the Soviet Union, was embarrassingly shot down on May 1, 1960.

His subsequent show trial became a cause célèbre. But the U2s had already been operating round-the-clock for four years by then and had told the US Air Intelligence what it needed to know most of all - that the so-called "bomber gap" between the superpowers did not exist.

Strategic Air Command quickly scrapped its plans for a new supersonic bomber. The U2 was made to seem old-fashioned by the aircraft which succeeded it - the SR71 or Blackbird, which can carry out its photo reconnaissance missions at more than 80,000 feet, at three times the speed of sound and at a range of nearly 3,500 miles.

The RC135, which was patrolling just outside Russian airspace when the Korean airliner was shot down, was developed from the Boeing 707 civil airliner. It first emerged as a reconnaissance and electronic warfare aircraft in the mid-1960s.

Since then it has been subject to constant development, largely in terms of the types of electronic equipment which it carries. The latest version, the RC135W emerged earlier this decade as a result of conversion of earlier models.



Russian wave: A Soviet pilot waving from a Soviet TU95 "Bear" intercepted by a Phantom over England and, below, a Russian rear gunner in another "Bear" over the North Atlantic.



Supersonic Blackbird: The probe-like United States Air Force SR71, known as the Blackbird, a key intelligence gatherer that is capable of flying at 2,000 mph at altitudes up to 85,000 ft.

Spies in the sky have come a long way since Powers

By Henry Stanhope, Rodney Cowton and John Lawless

It has a range of about 2,675 miles and can operate at altitudes over 35,000 feet. It is said that the more advanced model is capable of monitoring almost any electronic emission within range. At 35,000 feet it can monitor air defence systems on the ground at a distance of 150 miles out over the Pacific Ocean, off the Kamchatka Peninsula. But in the most favourable atmospheric conditions it is said that its monitoring range may extend to as much as 1,000 miles.

The aircraft, flown by US Air Force personnel, are usually operated for the National Security Agency. Espionage from the air is now commonplace and carried out to a greater or lesser extent by all the major powers.

The Soviet reconnaissance missions on which long-range aircraft like the supersonic Blackbird and the Bear skirt the edge of Britain's airspace off the North of England are well-known. RAF Phantoms and Lightnings are scrambled to intercept them several times a week.

But the term "spy in the sky" is usually reserved for the latest generation of airborne early-warning (AEW) aircraft like the American Avcon or the RAF Nimrod which are increasingly used by air forces to patrol national airspace and, with the help of giant radar dishes, "peer" more than 200 miles into enemy territory.

The responsibility for strategic reconnaissance, however, has to a large extent moved to the unmanned satellite, orbiting at between 80 and 200 miles.

As recently as November, 1981, a minor incident of last week's disaster occurred over the United States.

Two Aeroflot planes, bound for Washington from Moscow, crashed from agreed flightpaths and drew over military bases and other defence establishments in southern New England.

The only difference was that, instead of United States fighters shooting down the Soviet aircraft and killing several hundred people, the Russians were given almost two weeks to prove their innocence.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Duchess of Gloucester will open the International Congress of Maxillo-Facial Prosthetics and Technology at Royal College of Surgeons, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, arrives 8.55am.

New exhibitions

Autumn exhibition: Chichester House Gallery, High Street, Ditchling, Sussex; Tues to Sat 11.00 to 1.00, 2.30 to 5.00 (from today until October 15).

New London exhibitions

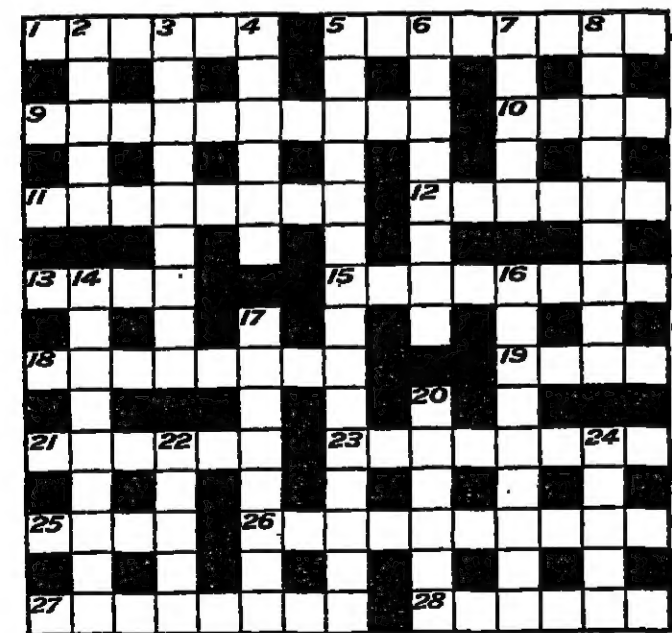
In the shade of the Blue Mountains: a photographic exhibition of the people, places and style of Jamaica; Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, W8; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2 to 5 (from today until Oct 2).

The Dolphin and the plumed Serpent: paintings of Ancient Greece and Old Mexico; Peoples' Gallery, 73 Prince of Wales Road, NW5; Tues to Sat 11 to 6 (until Oct 1).

Last chance to see

Folding pieces by Chris Jennings; and work by Tim Staples; Axiom

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,227



ACROSS

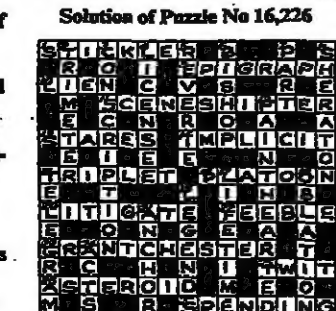
- 1 Detect in deep sound (6).
- 2 Train, in infancy, to give blows (4-4).
- 3 Sound judgment bringing better profit? (5,3).
- 4 No such defect in sister on probation (4).
- 5 Neat conclusion, of course (8).
- 6 Small task force is only part of the picture (6).
- 7 First half of one's performance switched in city (4).
- 8 No Christian could be acting so badly (8).
- 9 Violinist at home in an interval? Just the reverse (8).
- 10 Roo's delight about Eeyore's tail (4).
- 11 Expert on law makes Gray, for one, lose his head (6).
- 12 Soudly criticise performance of Chopin pieces (8).
- 13 Take over vessel (4).
- 14 True state briefly is seen in old game (4,6).
- 15 Disadvantage for ward (8).
- 16 Part of salad served in Burlington House? (6).

DOWN

- 1 What's different about this vessel? (1-4).
- 2 Master a new Latin dance (5,4).

4 Old officer such as Beverley put on staff (6).

- 5 Stop Patrick on autumn trip (11,4).
- 6 Acting as cover, perhaps, for novelist (8).
- 7 Point that's crucial to big cheese coming up (5).
- 8 Copy bills FM to put in collection of records (9).
- 9 Actor's entrance (5,4).
- 10 Thus Albert's left paper - editor stayed (9).
- 11 Knew old-fashioned song could be a bloomer (8).
- 12 Remove half a brace of ducks from vehicle, leaving this one (6).
- 13 Relative gain achieved by union (2-3).
- 14 Catches - very hard, they are (5).



Centre for the Arts, 57/59 Winchester Street, Cheltenham 10 to 5 (ends today).

Closing in London

Directors, by British artists in glass, Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, W8; 10 to 5.30 (ends today).

Watercolours and silk-screen prints by Reginald Shepherd, Strategic House Cultural Centre, Trafalgar Square, SW1; 10 to 5.30 (ends today).

Talks, lectures

Quality in negative and print, by L. G. Scurr, The Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret Street, Birmingham, 7.

What's all this about pollen? by Mr G. D. Bell, Woodland Centre, near Jeddburgh, 7.30.

Kirkcaldy history: Highlands and lowlands, by Ken Cowper, Hewick Town Hall, 7.30.

Music

Concert by the Philip Jones Brass Ensemble, with John Scott (organ), Salisbury Cathedral, 7.30.

Band concert, Bradda Glen, Port Eria, Isle of Man, 8.

Recital by the choir of King Edward VI School, Southampton, St Andrew's Parish Church, Plymouth, 7.30.

Recital by Simon Lindley (organ) and Keith Swallow (piano), Town Hall, Leeds, 1.05.

The organ recital by Ronald Frost, St Ann's Church, Manchester, 12.45 to 1.30.

Concert of works for violin and piano by young performers, Aldburgh Cinema, Aldburgh, 7.

Organ recital by Ann Marsden-Thomas, Canterbury Cathedral, 8.

Organ recital by Jeremy Suter, Chichester Cathedral, 1.10.

Organ recital by David Ingle, St Mary-le-Tower Church, Ipswich, 1.10.

General

Market and heritage day, Port St Mary Town Hall, Isle of Man, 10 to 4.

Bond winner

The winning number of the September £250,000 Premium Bonds prize draw is 7RL 280691. The winner comes from Herefordshire.

Anniversaries

Births: John Dalves, chemist and politician, English, 1868; 1786; Sir William Davies, organist and composer, Oswestry, Shropshire, 1869.

Our address

Information for inclusion in The Times Information Service should be sent to: Caroly James, TIS, The Times, PO Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EP.

TV top ten

- Top television programmes in the week ending August 28:
- 1 Coronation Street (BBC, 12.20m)
 - 2 Coronation Street (BBC, 12.20m)
 - 3 Coronation Street (BBC, 12.20m)
 - 4 Coronation Street (BBC, 12.20m)
 - 5 Coronation Street (BBC, 12.20m)
 - 6 Coronation Street (BBC, 12.20m)
 - 7 Coronation Street (BBC, 12.20m)
 - 8 Coronation Street (BBC, 12.20m)
 - 9 The A-Z of TV (BBC, 12.20m)
 - 10 The A-Z of TV (BBC, 12.20m)

- 1 New 0 Clock News (BBC, 8.50m)
- 2 New 0 Clock News (BBC, 8.50m)
- 3 New 0 Clock News (BBC, 8.50m)
- 4 New 0 Clock News (BBC, 8.50m)
- 5 New 0 Clock News (BBC, 8.50m)
- 6 New 0 Clock News (BBC, 8.50m)
- 7 New 0 Clock News (BBC, 8.50m)
- 8 New 0 Clock News (BBC, 8.50m)
- 9 New 0 Clock News (BBC, 8.50m)
- 10 New 0 Clock News (BBC, 8.50m)

- 1 The Paul O'Grady Show (BBC, 8.50m)
- 2 The Paul O'Grady Show (BBC, 8.50m)
- 3 The Paul O'Grady Show (BBC, 8.50m)
- 4 The Paul O'Grady Show (BBC, 8.50m)
- 5 The Paul O'Grady Show (BBC, 8.50m)
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Roads

Midlands: M5: Outside lane closed on southbound carriageway between junction 3 (Dudley) and junction 4 (Bromsgrove); delays at peak hours. M1: All slip roads closed at junction 15 (Northampton) except southbound exit roadworks. M6: All traffic sharing one side of the motorway between junctions 10 and 11 (Walsall and Cannock); construction for M54.

North: M1: Centralised system in operation and restricted access to motorway at times between junctions 30 and 31 near Sheffield. M63: Northbound slip road on to the M62 near Preston closed; alternative route signposted. A1: Roadworks at southern end of the Bedford by-pass, Northampton.

Wales and West: A487: Three sets of temporary traffic lights in operation at Tal-y-llyn, Gwynedd. A38: Lane closures and diversion at Marsh Mills viaduct and Les Mill, Plymouth. A6: Resurfacing work at Bristol, Bristol delays.

South: A7: Two sets of roadworks, with temporary traffic lights, south of Goring, Midlothian. A82: Sewer repairs on Great Western Road, Glasgow. Severe weather lane closures near Cromwell Street. M74: Southbound carriageway closed between junctions 2 and 1 (Lackhall) and the end of the motorway. Two-way traffic on northbound track.

Information supplied by the A.A.

Motor tax 'blitz'

From September 19, West Mercia Police will be stopping motorists without valid tax discs, in the seventh "blitz" campaign against tax dodgers this year.